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THE TIMES

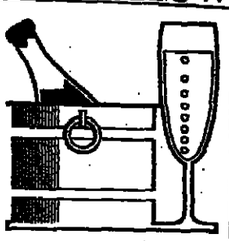
No 62,386

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 21 1986

25p

THE TIMES

Tomorrow



A restaurant dream . . .
Always wanted to own your own restaurant? A bistro your idea of bliss? Dinner party dreamers who join the professionals often find they have bitten off more than they can chew. Check out the pitfalls of becoming a *patron*, before you crack open the champagne.

N Y memories
A National debut for Neil Simon

Kingston showdown
Testing time for England in the West Indies

Portfolio

There is £4,000 to be won in today's Times Portfolio daily competition as there was no winner yesterday. Portfolio list page 21; how to play, information service, page 32

Argentines reject talks offer

The visiting delegation of Argentine parliamentarians announced that they had rejected an invitation to hold talks with Mr Timothy Eggar, a junior minister at the Foreign Office. A government statement expressed disappointment.

BP record

Record profits of £1.6 billion have been announced by BP which has also defended its decision not to cut petrol prices more quickly at the pumps Page 17

Sanctions call

Sanctions to prevent dentists "drilling for gold" by carrying out unnecessary treatment were urged yesterday by a Government inquiry Page 3

Snub by EEC

EEC envoys in Manila called on Mrs Corazon Aquino in what appeared to be an unprecedented diplomatic gesture, and a snub for President Marcos in the wake of the recent disputed poll Page 8

Space first

The Soviet Union put into orbit a giant, new-generation space station in a public relations exercise to dramatize the forthcoming Communist Party congress Page 6

Reagan visit

President Reagan arrived in Grenada for a five-hour visit. He was greeted by the Governor-General, Sir Paul Scoon, and the Prime Minister, Mr Herbert Blaize.

NRA pledge

Uganda's new Government said it would remain in power for a maximum of four years and pledged to honour legal obligations incurred by previous administrations
Amin interview, page 7

Justice quest

A couple's struggle over three and a half years to see justice against the man they blamed for killing their son with drugs was vindicated when the man was jailed for manslaughter Page 2

End of ban?

The ban on English football clubs competing in Europe could be lifted by the UEFA congress in April, according to a senior FIFA official
Page 27

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Parents to get more powers in schools

By David Walker

Parents are to have a far stronger say in the running of schools in England and Wales, the Government promised yesterday. It published an education Bill that would end the "domination" of school governors' meetings by political activists by increasing representation of parents.

The Bill also gives the Government wide new powers to set up a system of testing teachers' competence in the classroom. But the machinery is to be kept in reserve because it hopes teachers' unions and councils can agree on a voluntary scheme as part of a settlement of the teachers' pay dispute.

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said yesterday that reformed governing bodies for schools, due to be established from September 1987, could mean more discipline, less peace studies, but perhaps also more pressure from parents for spending on education.

The reform will affect 28,000 state schools, primary and secondary.

In future representatives of parents are to equal the number of governors appointed by local councils. The Government has retreated from its original intention of giving parents a majority.

Governors are to have a much clearer definition of responsibilities, though the Government has stopped short of giving them much additional influence over what is taught, how much teachers are paid, and how well they teach.

Governors will be required to think about what is taught. Nothing has better illustrated the impotence of governors than their inability to question what children were taught.

Councils are to continue to decide all questions of teachers' pay and competence.

Dismissing teachers, too, will be a matter in which the council will have the final say. Discipline in schools is governed by a myriad of local rules. For the first time, the Bill will establish a national pattern by making it the explicit duty of each headteacher to secure standards of acceptable behaviour by pupils in accord with a general statement on discipline written by the governors.

The Government's plan was a "recipe for chaos", Mr Nigel de Gruchy, deputy general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers said.

But Mr David Hart, of the National Association of Head Teachers, said the Government had found the right balance, except in the issue of disciplining pupils. Governing bodies should have more power.

However, The National Confederation of Parent-Teacher Associations, which claims to represent five million parents, said: "The parent is the first educator of the child and it is essential to encourage parents to participate more fully in the life of the school.

"But we regret the failure of Government to recognize that teachers should also have equal representation on governing bodies."

Mr Fred Jarvis, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said: "Any attempt to impose a system through this enabling legislation will be opposed by this union."

Leading article, page 13



The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh with five Gurkha holders of the Victoria Cross in Kathmandu, Nepal, yesterday. From the left they are: Rambahadur Limbu, Tulbahadur Pun, Ganju Lama, Bhanbakta Gurung and Agansing Rai. Limbu won his VC during the Borneo campaign for rescuing two men while under intense machine-gun fire and without cover. Pun won his in Burma when he charged alone over 30 yards of muddy open ground and knocked out a Japanese position. Lama was honoured for crawling forward and single-handedly, despite a broken wrist and wounds to his leg and right hand, destroying two enemy tanks. Gurung won his VC for returning two grenades which landed in a bunker, and despite having a third explode in his hand, going on to kill 31 of the 87 attacking enemy. Rai was awarded his VC for his efforts in Burma when, under withering fire from a machine-gun post and a 37mm gun, he charged and took the post before taking the 37mm gun.

Royal tour, page 9

Alarm over forestry 'sell-off'

By Hugh Clayton
Environment Correspondent

There was confusion in government circles last night over reports that vast stretches of woodland, worth perhaps £1,000 million, were to be privatized.

A reported decision by ministers to sell almost everything owned by the Forestry Commission would have meant that plantations and beauty spots adding up to more than the areas of Devon and Cornwall combined were up for grabs.

However, last night the Scottish Office said that no decisions had been taken. Most of the commission's land is in Scotland. The Scottish Office added that it had received no recommendation from the commission for disposal of land to private investors.

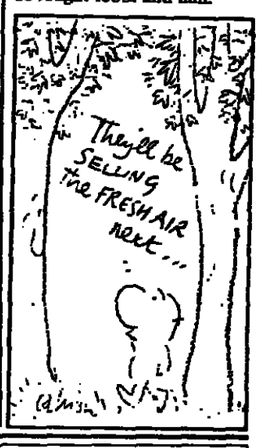
Any such decision would mark a rapid acceleration of the piecemeal sales of commission land that began more than four years ago, amid complaints that the process has been too secretive and too rapid for nature-lovers to buy woods important for wildlife.

A meeting of ministers yesterday failed to dispel confusion. No statement was issued after Mr Michael Jopling, Minister of Agriculture, met Mr Nicholas Edwards and Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Secretaries of State for Wales and Scotland.

It was not clear how the Government would sell the land without disrupting the market. Woods sold so far have fetched between about £150 and £650 an acre, depending on size, position and commercial prospects. Some have not found buyers.

Conservative and Labour MPs reacted angrily yesterday.

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, said: "Any option which includes the wholesale flogging off of Forestry Commission land—especially since the Commission was set up by general acclamation—to City and commercial interests will be fought tooth and nail."



Tebbit rails at Tory critics

By Anthony Bevins
Political Correspondent

Mr Norman Tebbit attacked yesterday the "mud-slinging leaders of the dirty and cheap" opposition parties in a speech which swept aside his Cabinet colleagues' appeals for a smoother approach to the political battlefront.

Speaking at a lunch arranged by the American Chamber of Commerce in London, the Conservative party chairman's criticism appeared to apply to Tory dissidents such as Mr Michael Heseltine as well as Labour and Alliance leaders.

He said: "I deeply regret that self-styled serious contenders for high political office should be willing to damage both our Anglo-American friendship and indeed the prospects for jobs in Britain by using dirty and cheap anti-Americanism in pursuit of dirty and cheap votes for dirty and cheap political parties."

But he also said that the Americans should not get paranoid: they were not the only victims.

"An even more deplorable result of this dirty campaign for votes between Mr Kinnock and his rivals in the Labour Party and the warring factions in the other parties, is that great institutions and public servants of high repute are being bombarded with mud and dirt, without thought of the damage inflicted."

In spite of recent appeals from Mr John Biffen, the Leader of the Commons, for a less "raucous" approach, and from Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, for less political "scragging" of opponents, Mr Tebbit went even further.

He said that once the present bout of mud-slinging had died down the Conservative party would confront the voters with the issues of the next election.

They would include a choice for the nation between continued Conservative-led recovery – "or whether it will sink back into half-baked Socialism, or even hard-baked Socialism. That is, whether it will become more like West Germany or East Germany, more akin to America or Albania."

Mr Tebbit's ministerial critics were last night expressing a degree of resignation at their

Continued on page 2, col 3

Thatcher attacks anti-US hysteria

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Prime Minister and her senior colleagues yesterday accused opponents of the General Motors - British Leyland deal of deliberately stoking up anti-American feeling in their efforts to thwart the takeover.

In a concerted government drive to win support for the American option Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Mr Norman Tebbit, the Conservative Party chairman, welcomed overseas investment in Britain and, along with Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, made clear that Leyland's losses could not continue to be borne.

In another development Sir John Hoskyns, former head of the Prime Minister's policy unit, said it had been wrong to call off the talks between Austin Rover and Ford, blaming ministers whom he said had not thought the issue through and had deflected the Government by reacting to emotions.

In the Commons Mrs Thatcher said that support for British Leyland had cost every family in Britain £200, a situation that could not continue.

She said that British companies had acquired 160 businesses in the United States last year and 142 in 1984; there was no anti-British feeling there.

But she added: "I fear that some anti-American feeling has been around - I fear some deliberately - in the United Kingdom about the future of British Leyland."

Mr Tebbit, in a speech to the American Chamber of Commerce, said that the United Kingdom was now seen by the United States and Japanese companies as the most favourable base for long-term investment giving them access to the European market.

"What a change. Past efforts by governments other than this to find foreign suitors for BL were derided and criticized only for their failure. Today the Government is criticized because a foreign buyer might well be successful."

Mr Tebbit said that for many years increasing American investment in Britain had been creating jobs and prosperity. The Government welcomed inward investment, he said.

Mr Tebbit attacked the party's opponents in the House of Commons, accusing them of "dirty and cheap anti-Americanism in pursuit of dirty and cheap votes for dirty and cheap political parties."

He said: "I fear it is one of the worst features of the present spell of the new multi-party politics in Britain that it has so badly eroded serious political debate."

Continued on page 2, col 6

Talks at Acas over Wapping dispute

By Michael Horsnell

Exploratory talks between News International and the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service took place in London yesterday over the dismissal of 5,000 print workers involved in the newspaper group's move to Wapping, east London.

After the 90-minute meeting a joint statement said only that further talks may be possible soon.

News International explained its position in the dispute which began last month when its printers went on strike and the company abandoned publication at its premises in Gray's Inn Road and Bouverie Street.

The talks coincided with three further developments in the dispute yesterday:

- Sogat '82, the print union which was fined £25,000 and had its £17 million assets frozen for contempt of court after ignoring a High Court order to stop instructing its members at wholesalers to black the four newspapers, paid the fine. But it declined to purge its contempt;
- The Leeds office of the sequestrators, London chartered accountants Ernst and Whinney, was occupied for more than two hours by 20

Continued on page 2, col 1

Guinness steps up Distillers fight

By Jeremy Warner, Business Correspondent

Guinness made a fresh attempt yesterday to push through an agreed £2.35 billion merger with Distillers, the Johnnie Walker whisky and Gordon's gin drinks group.

The new merger terms come less than a week after the proposed tie-up appeared to have been killed off by a reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. But the brewer has come up with a formula which it believes will quell fears at the Office of Fair Trading and in the Government about the effects of the merger on competition in the whisky market.

Guinness said that it would sell rights to a number of Distillers whisky brands in the home market to reduce the combined group's share to less than 25 per cent.

These brands would probably include Claymore, which has about 6 per cent of the market; Haig, with 3 per cent; The Real Mackenzie and Buchanan Blend, both with 2 per cent; and John Barr, with less than 1 per cent.

The new group, however, would retain the rights in export markets to The Real Mackenzie, Buchanan and Haig, one of Scotland's oldest whiskies with a known history dating back to the 17th century.

Guinness, which owns Britain's best-selling Scotch, Bell's, said that rights to the brands would be vested in a new company which would also be given adequate blending and bottling facilities in Scotland and some distilleries if necessary. This company would be entrusted to Guinness's merchant bank, Morgan Grenfell, until a suitable buyer was found.

The proposal was described as "astonishing and cosmetic" by Mr James Gulliver's Argyll supermarket group, which has made a rival £2.3 billion bid. Mr David Webster, Argyll's finance director, said he felt sure that the fresh bid would suffer the same fate as the first and be referred to the Monopolies Commission.

There was confusion last night over whether the formula would satisfy the Government's competition requirements. Guinness said that the proposal had been vetted by Sir Godfray Le Quesne, the chairman of the Monopolies Commission, who had advised Mr Geoffrey Pattie, Minister of State for Industry, to lay aside the previous reference decision.

However, Argyll said it understood that Mr Pattie did not know that Guinness was about to launch a fresh bid and agreed to lay aside the reference only because he thought Guinness had given up the chase. The Department of Trade and Industry was unable to comment.

The Office of Fair Trading said that it had no prior knowledge of the fresh merger proposal and could not say at this stage whether it would escape a reference to the Monopolies Commission.

US blames PLO for peace talks failure

From Michael Binyon, Washington

The Reagan Administration said yesterday that despite the breakdown of talks between King Husain and the Palestine Liberation Organization, it would continue its efforts to encourage direct negotiations between Jordan and Israel for a "just, durable and lasting peace in the Middle East."

But it suggested there would be little movement forward while all parties embarked on a "period of reflection."

In a statement strongly critical of the PLO, the State Department said its leadership had been unable to meet the King's challenge to accept key United Nations Security Council resolutions which he had termed the basic cornerstone of a just settlement.

"The PLO leadership has been unable to agree to negotiations with Israel and unable to end violence while negotiations are under way."

The Administration clearly believes that it will now be impossible for the King to go ahead on his own unless some means is found of including non-PLO Palestinians. The latest twist confirms Washington's view that Mr Yassir Arafat cannot be trusted.

Washington is eager to keep its lines of communication open to King Husain, though the indefinite postponement of the $1.5 billion arms package for Jordan has certainly cast a shadow over relations.

Peace setback, page 6

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Judge challenge to Hailsham over 'gag'

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A judge has challenged Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, over the rules which prevent judges from speaking publicly to the media, in a campaign for reform which puts his job at direct risk.

Judge Pickles, a circuit judge based at Leeds, who has come close to dismissal for speaking out in the past, has made an outspoken attack on the so-called Kilmuir rules, drawn up in 1955 by the Lord Chancellor of that name to ensure that the judiciary was "insulated against the controversies of the day".

Judge Pickles said the rules were now much too wide and their "rigid application" by Lord Hailsham was not supported by a number of judges.

"An increasing number of us is becoming restive. Unless a judge renounces, as I have, any sort of promotion, honour, or favour, all of which flow from Lord Hailsham's overflowing hands, it is dangerous to step out of line", he said.

His comments, first made in an article in a national newspaper, are to be followed by a broadcast this week on the BBC radio *Law In Action* programme.

"I'm breaking new ground. I'm trying to modernize the judiciary, which is rather a bold thing to do. I'm not doing this because I like to live dangerously but because I believe it's about time for a bit of frankness and honesty in this profession which is so cocooned with half-truths", Judge Pickles said in an interview with *The Times*.

He said judges must be free to contribute to public discussion. "We are not running a public company. The public and what they think matter most. What do they think about the rules and about the way Lord Hailsham applies them? I would like to know."



Judge Pickles, who has renewed his judicial attack

Judge Pickles, aged 60, is a blunt-speaking Yorkshireman who describes himself as a "radical", although he has voted Conservative. He is well known to radio listeners as the successful playwright James Fairfax, and more recently has written under his own name, James Pickles. Wilfred Pickles, the actor, is his uncle.

He decided to speak out against the "gagging of judges" in two newspaper articles last year which brought the full opprobrium of the Lord Chancellor upon him.

In a letter, Lord Hailsham said he considered the articles, which concerned Government pressure on judges to shorten sentences, the parole system and weaknesses of the prison system, as prima facie "judicial misbehaviour", which is a ground for dismissing a judge.

Judge Pickles protested. The Lord Chancellor replied that recent events, and in particular the newspaper articles, "show you have not heeded the warnings which those senior to you have given. This must be the result of foolishness or a complete lack of sensitivity".

The judge gave an undertaking not to write further newspaper articles, but he has now withdrawn that undertaking.

Apart from the Kilmuir rules and the parole system, he said he is also concerned about judicial delays and the "overwhelming number of bail applications".

A spokesman for the Lord Chancellor's Department said yesterday: "The Kilmuir rules were the subject of an extensive trawl of the judiciary last year and the overwhelming view was that they should be retained".

Couple win three-year fight to jail man who killed son with drugs

A mother's struggle over three-and-a-half years to bring to court the man she blames for the death of her teenage son ended successfully yesterday when he was jailed for 15 months for manslaughter.

Mrs Pauline Williams, aged 45, clutched her husband and gave a sigh of relief when the jury at St Alban's Crown Court returned a verdict of guilty on Gary Austin, aged 25.

The jury of six men and six women took more than three hours to decide by a unanimous verdict that he had unlawfully killed Mr John Williams, aged 19, a dairy worker.

They also found him guilty of maliciously administering a noxious substance, the drug Palfium, so as to endanger life. He was sentenced to 15 months' imprisonment on that charge, to run concurrently.

Passing sentence, Mr Justice Staughton said: "This case must be a warning to those who inject others with dangerous drugs, even at their request, or help others to inject themselves.

"If the other person dies, such conduct is manslaughter for which the maximum sentence is life imprisonment."

The prosecution alleged that Austin, a despatch rider, of Burton Road, Stockwell, south London, had caused the death of Mr Williams by assisting him to inject Palfium, a pain-killer used by cancer patients.

After the incident on September 2, 1982, the Director of Public Prosecutions advised the police that there was insufficient evidence to bring charges against Austin.

But Mrs Williams and her husband, Ray, aged 48, a motor fitter of Whipperley Ring, Luton, Bedfordshire, were prepared to spend around £16,000 of their savings to take the case to court.

It was the first time this century that a manslaughter case instigated by a private prosecution had been brought to trial. The DPP took over the case after magistrates at Luton committed Austin for trial last September.

After they had returned their verdicts, the foreman of the jury was asked whether they had found that Austin had injected all of the contents of a syringe into Mr Williams, some of the contents, or whether Mr Williams had injected himself.

The jury foreman said they had found that some of the contents of the syringe had been injected by Austin.

As the verdict was announced, friends and relatives of Austin began sobbing.

Det Insp Richard Roscoe then read out to the packed courtroom details of Austin's criminal record, which included two fines for possession of drugs, including LSD, a three-year prison sentence imposed in March 1983 for the burglary of chemists' shops and the theft of drugs, and for possessing the Palfium involved in the Williams' case.

He had been released from prison in March 1984, after serving 18 months.

Mr Stephen Coward, for Austin, said: "The man who in September 1982 was deeply enmeshed in the hard drugs scene, and injected hard drugs, is now out of it."

He said the defendant had received a small inheritance enabling him to move away from Luton, buy a motorcycle and obtain a job in London as a despatch rider.

"He has got a girlfriend and for the first time for many years has seen some prospect of living his life away from the horrors that your Lordship has heard about," Mr Coward said.



The Princess of Wales opening the British Medical Association's new library at Tavistock Square, London, yesterday.

Thatcher attacks anti-US hysteria

Continued from page 1

Mr Channon, speaking at a trade and industry forum at Conservative Central Office, said that a merger between Bedford and Land Rover-Leyland offered one way out of both companies' difficulties. Both were under-utilized, both were losing money and despite the obvious merits of their products both were failing to generate the income which they needed to fund the next generation of vehicles. Such a position could not be maintained.

He denied suggestions by Conservative and Labour MPs that Land Rover was part of the deal as a "sweetener". Land Rover was part of the potential deal because it would be good for Land Rover making clear that other offers would be examined on their merit Mr Channon nevertheless added: "The GM deal seems likely to offer real solutions to real problems."

Sir John, who is the director general of the Institute of Directors, said that Austin Rover was a weak company despite the achievements of management and workforce and the Government would have been irresponsible not to have talked to Ford.

In the Commons Mrs Thatcher and Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, clashed over the assurances being sought from potential buyers. Mrs Thatcher said there were no binding enforceable assurances about the future of a loss-making BL.

Savage says faults over births not incompetence

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Mrs Wendy Savage, the obstetrician, yesterday told the inquiry into her professional future that she felt isolated from the rest of her consultant colleagues at the London Hospital and from important policy decisions after Professor Geddis Grudzinskas became head of the obstetrics department.

She practised alone at the hospital's Mile End site, while her four male colleagues were based at Whitechapel.

When she went to divisional meetings to discuss departmental policy she felt excluded "because the four consultants at Whitechapel would get together, decide what they wanted to do, and when we met I was presented with a fait accompli," she told the inquiry on the second day of her defence. "I became isolated from the decision-making process."

Asked if she thought that was deliberate, she said: "It is hard to know. I assumed it was not at the time, but looking back it is difficult to say."

Mrs Savage has accused her colleagues of "extraordinary and unprecedented manoeuvres" which led to her suspension last year, and that they were "intolerant" of methods which differed from their own.

Yesterday, the second day of the inquiry, she defended her handling of the cases over which she is accused of professional incompetence, admitting that in some instances mistakes were made but that those did not amount to anything like incompetence.

In the case of Mrs AU, who underwent a long labour attempting to give birth through a contracted pelvis, with the baby dying eight days after birth, she told her colleagues during an internal inquiry into the death that "although obstetric opinion may differ, I do not regard my management of Mrs AU as controversial".

She left instructions that the mother should be given a trial of labour and believed her registrar was experienced enough to decide when a Caesarean section was necessary.

The registrar telephoned Professor Grudzinsakas during the night because he was worried about the case but did not contact her. When she discussed the case later with the registrar, Dr Toby Fay, she told the inquiry, he said to her: "I did not want to do another Caesarean because I was tired."

She told him, she said, "that I do not believe this baby died because of the labour or delivery but because of a rare blood disorder".

The child is believed to have died from a tear in the brain but no post-mortem examination was carried out, at the request of the parents.

In the case of Mrs SP, who spent eight hours in the second stage of labour, Mrs Savage said the case was most unusual in that the mother had no desire to push. She used a syntocinon drip to encourage contractions because neither the mother nor baby was distressed and it was clear that the baby was not in danger. It was eventually delivered by Caesarean section.

In the case of Mrs LG, whose baby was still-born, Mrs Savage agreed that there had been a failure to pick up early warning signs of the baby not growing properly in the womb, but pointed to administrative slip-ups and misjudgements in ante-natal care.

The inquiry continues.

Acas holds talks about Wapping

Continued from page 1

demonstrators protesting about the seizure of Sogat's assets:

● The National Graphical Association, the other traditional print union involved in the dispute, again deferred announcing the result of a ballot among its members producing *The Times*' weekly supplements amid speculation that it has lost the vote for blacking the three publications.

The NGA says that by holding a successful ballot it would be legally entitled to reimpose blacking of the supplements. It has already been fined £25,000 for contempt for ignoring an order to stop the blacking.

The NGA did not explain yesterday why it had not announced the result of its ballot last Sunday of its 50 members in Northampton who help to produce the three weeklies.

Sogat's decision to pay its fine came after meetings between its general secretary Miss Brenda Dean and the four sequestrators from Ernst and Whinney.

This in turn came after a slight relaxation of the terms of the sequestration by Mr Justice Taylor at a High Court hearing on Tuesday night.

At that hearing, which was not disclosed until yesterday, the union was permitted to pay essential bills through the sequestrators for the running of its convalescent homes together with genuine hardship and disability payments

● Mr Christopher Warman, the property correspondent of *The Times* was taken to hospital with a badly cut face last night after a broken glass was thrust into his face by a man who accused him of being a scab.

The incident happened in the Pakenham Arms, near the newspaper's former Gray's Inn Road offices. The attacker and two companions ran away.

● Twelve people are to appear before Thames magistrates next week after a demonstration by 2,000 people outside the Wapping plant on Wednesday night. Five police officers were hurt but none seriously, Scotland Yard said.

Distribution of *The Times* and *The Sun*, which enjoyed full production runs, was not affected.

Police offered no evidence against nine out of 15 demonstrators

The nine all agreed to be bound over for 12 months in the sum of £50. The other six were remanded on bail.

● A group of Left-wing Labour MPs yesterday urged the Home Secretary to declare Mr Rupert Murdoch an "undesirable alien" and stop him re-entering the United Kingdom in the interests of decency and public order.

Tebbit rails at critics

Continued from page 1

colleague's irrepressible aggression, which was yesterday applied to anyone who fitted the description which was issued.

Although Mr Heseltine has recently been accused of impugning the integrity of public servants, Mr Tebbit yesterday specifically quoted a recent letter from Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, to the Prime Minister on the Hanson bid for Imperial to illustrate his attack on the mud-slingers.

Mr Tebbit said that Mr Steel had mischievously suggested that the Hanson bid had been given the all-clear "as a thank you for Lord Hanson's role in the Westland affair" when he backed Sikorsky - while the GEC bid for Plessey had been referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission because they had been on the "wrong side" of the Westland wrangle.

The Conservative chairman said that the slur against Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, was bad enough but Mr Steel's letter had also suggested "the smear" that Sir Gordon Borrie, the independent Director General of Fair Trading, had acted "as a political payola agent for the Conservative party".

But Mr Tebbit said that the mud-slinging would not last and the electorate would inexorably be faced with the debate about real issues: how the Thatcher administration had killed fears that the country was ungovernable; had overcome hyper-inflation; restored industrial relations; rolled back state control; doubled the number of shareholders; and liberated nearly 900,000 former council tenants.

He concluded: "If I happen to be with you again, in say 1990, we will be looking back on another string of success for Mrs Thatcher and her government, another list of gloomy prognostications unfulfilled, and looking forward to a fourth consecutive Conservative election win in 1992 or thereabouts."

£10.5m boost for art heritage fund

The National Heritage Memorial Fund is to get an extra £10.5 million to save works of art and valuable estates for the nation.

The decision, announced yesterday by Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for the Environment, comes after pressure for greater government support for the fund, which is the main source of state finance for items threatened with export or dispersal through sales.

Soaring international art prices have made it virtually impossible for national institutions to make realistic bids

● Pirelli, the tyre maker, is to sponsor a new garden for exhibitions and fairs at the Victoria and Albert Museum, South Kensington, in London, at a cost of more than £250,000.

Farmers told to dip sheep

Farmers were told yesterday by the Ministry of Agriculture that all sheep must be dipped twice this year in an attempt to eradicate sheep scab disease. Treatment should take place between June 28 and August 9 and again between September 20 and November 1.

'Ostrich-like' printers

Mr Norman Tebbit, the Conservative Party chairman, attacked the print unions when he spoke to the American Chamber of Commerce in London.

He said: "Like ostriches the printers of Fleet Street buried their heads in the sand. They hoped the new technology would go away and, more reactionary than any country squire, they rejoiced in having resisted change.

"But now they have the barefaced cheek to accuse News International of taking from them the wealth they believed they had created.

"Fleet Street has for years been littered with the financial corpses of the press barons who could not stand against the losses from producing newspapers the printers' way."

Mr Tebbit said he had some sympathy with News International's former printers: "But they must have known that the type had been set a long time ago for this story. I am glad to say that Fleet Street in general now represents no more than an absurd anachronism in British industry."

Sellafield inspectors prepare for safety inquiry

By Peter Davenport

Senior officials of the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate yesterday began assembling the team which will carry out the inquiry into safety at the Sellafield nuclear reprocessing plant.

Although the 12 inspectors are not expected to move on to the site in Cumbria until next week the detailed planning for the investigation has began.

The team, which will be in the plant for three months with a further three months preparing its report, was being selected by Mr Jim Hannaford, head of the inspectorate's No 3 branch, based in Liverpool, and which has special responsibility for Sellafield.

He was in contact during the day with the inspectorate's chief, Mr Eddie Ryder.

Once the 12 inspectors have been selected and briefed, senior members of the team will hold talks with executives of British Nuclear Fuels, which operates Sellafield, at the company's headquarters at Risley, near Warrington, in the middle of next week. The on-site investigation will start soon afterwards.

The inspectors will be backed up by officials of the accident prevention advisory unit of the Health and Safety Executive, which announced the safety inquiry on Wednesday. Yesterday Mr Jake Kelly, the BNFL spokesman at Sellafield, said: "We welcome the inquiry. We have nothing to hide." He denied allegations that the company had given wrong information about recent incidents.

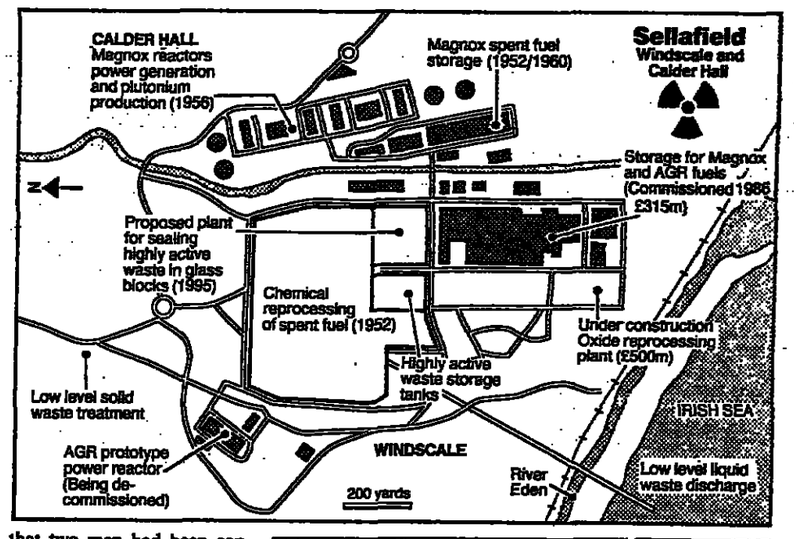
For example, he said, in the escape of plutonium mist, initial medical tests disclosed that two men had been contaminated but further checks which took longer to process eventually disclosed that 11 men had been affected.

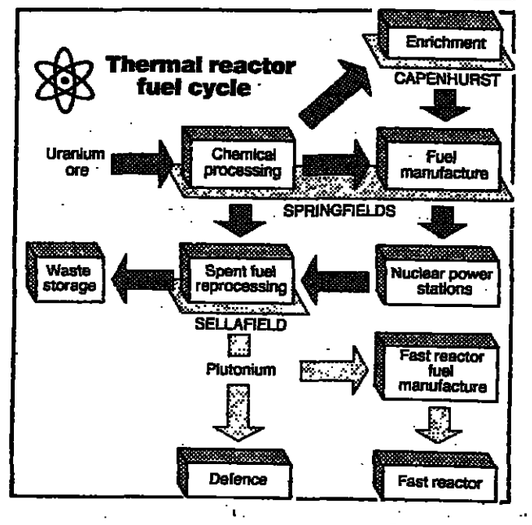
Mr Kelly said: "Safety is not negotiable at Sellafield. There is no argument between unions and management about that. It is paramount to us both."

Much of the inspectors' work is expected to concentrate on the main B205 reprocessing plant to see how it is operated.

They will also examine the effectiveness of safety procedures contained in a large, blue-backed folder which govern the way incidents are dealt with at the plant.

Sellafield is the world's largest nuclear reprocessing plant and is undergoing a £3,500 million expansion programme.





Euro vote to close plant

The European Parliament voted by 135 to 99 yesterday in favour of the temporary shutdown of the Sellafield nuclear reprocessing plant, pending the outcome of a Commons inquiry.

The call came at the end of a passionate emergency debate in Strasbourg, in which the Government and British Nuclear Fuels were accused of failing to heed warnings.

Amid groans and boos from other MEPs, Mrs Sheila Faith, Cumbria and Lancashire North, attacked calls for the plant's closure as "irresponsible and alarmist".

She questioned whether it was any more dangerous than the mining, chemical or even the building industries.

Other Euro MPs, mainly Irish members concerned about nuclear discharges into the Irish Sea, expressed alarm at the recent rate of leakages.

Fianna Fail's Mrs Eileen Lemass described Sellafield's record as a disaster. She said the EEC had full responsibility for policing the Common Market's nuclear industry under a 1958 treaty.

EEC Commissioner Mr Stanley Clinton Davis, who is conducting an EEC-level inquiry, promised an early report. He made it clear he was in favour of a European policy aimed at removing the need for all nuclear discharges as soon as technically possible.

Risks and safeguards of nuclear reprocessing

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

Countries with nuclear power have taken two distinct approaches to the treatment of spent fuel rods from atomic power stations. They are either reprocessed, as at Sellafield, or stored intact.

The second method is referred to as "once-through fuelling".

The main argument for reprocessing is to extract plutonium created in the reactor. There are no natural sources of plutonium, the main ingredient of nuclear weapons and the fuel for future fast-breeder reactors.

The basic fuel for atomic stations is uranium ore, which in the case of Britain comes mainly from Canada and Namibia. Once the ore is converted to metal, the material consists mostly of uranium 238 with about 0.7 per cent of uranium 235.

The first generation Magnox reactors, which are in operation at 11 sites in Britain, use fuel rods machined from natural uranium metal.

The second generation of advanced gas-cooled reactors, coming into play at seven power stations in the UK, need a higher proportion of uranium 235. This also applies to pressurized water reactors, such as the one planned for Sizewell.

Enriched fuel with a uranium 235 content of between 3 and 4 per cent is produced at Capenhurst, Cheshire. It is prepared as uranium oxide, and is referred to as "oxide fuel".

All these factors become crucial when the reprocessing route is chosen, because of the different types of waste.

Magnox fuel rods, which form the bulk of the material so far reprocessed at Sellafield, are clad in a magnesium alloy. Oxide fuel is moulded into pellets that are encased in stainless steel or an alloy called zircalloy.

In all reactors the amount of uranium is reduced by the fission process. Fuel removed from the reactor contains about 96 per cent uraniaum, up to 1 per cent plutonium and between 2 and 3 per cent fission products. Reprocessing separates those three groups.

Fuel elements are kept for at least 90 days in a cooling pond at the power station because they are too "hot" to transport. On arrival at Sellafield they are again stored under water for 12 to 18 months in the case of Magnox fuel, and for possibly years in the case of oxide fuel.

Next the metal cladding is removed and the rods are dissolved in nitric acid for chemical separation. Several classes of waste are left.

Contamination of cooling-pond water occurs with damaged fuel rods leaking. Some of the more soluble radioactive elements such as caesium 137 get into waste at this stage, and this forms most of the active elements which get into the Irish Sea.

Stainless steel and zircalloy are corroded by pond water to some extent, but less than for Magnox cladding. In general, pond waters form part of the low level of active liquid effluent produced at Sellafield.

The fuel cladding itself is a second source of waste, which is classed as an intermediate level waste and stored underwater in heavily shielded silos.

Gaseous discharges consisting mainly of krupton 85, and tritium, produced at the time the fuel is converted into liquid nitrate, is the bulk of the atmopheric discharges. Other various chemical activities produce low-level liquid streams.

The most highly active wastes come from the chemical separation. They are stored in double-lined stainless tanks that contain cooling coils.

The site, first named Windscale, was acquired in 1947 for the construction of two air-cooled nuclear piles for the production of plutonium and fuel reprocessing plant for its extraction.

In 1953 construction began on two Magnox reactors which formed the Calder Hall power station. Calder Hall was connected to the electricity grid, providing 30 years ago the world's first demonstration of the possibility of commercial nuclear power.

In 1957 the most serious accident took place, when fire broke out in one of the plutonium producing piles. Those reactors were not used again, and in 1958 the Government decided to change the concept of the Windscale site.

The future was seen in processing fuel from other nuclear power stations. The chemical plant for processing materials from the Calder Hall reactors would separate material from all UK reactors.

An adjacent site owned by the Ministry of Defence at Drigg would be used as a national repository for lightly contaminated solid wastes.

Fuel was first reprocessed in a plant known as Building 204. Then a second larger plant, B205, was introduced and reprocessing began on a large scale. The second plant is still used for the processing of Magnox fuel.

The old B204 was converted for treating oxide fuel from the prototype advanced gas-cooled reactor on site. It was closed down in 1973.

On a reorganization of the UK Atomic Energy Authority to create British Nuclear Fuels, the site was transferred to the present management. In 1976, the Government gave permission for the building of a new thermal oxide reprocessing plant to cost more than £500 million. It was the subject of the Windscale public inquiry in 1977.

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Tough discipline urged for dentists who carry out needless treatment

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Tough sanctions to stop dentists from carrying out unnecessary treatment were urged by a government appointed inquiry yesterday.

It recommended that any dentist found guilty of deliberate unnecessary treatment, or any dentist who over treated because his knowledge was out-of-date and there was evidence of "serious incompetence", should be referred to the General Dental Council, the dentists' disciplinary body.

The inquiry was set up in 1984 after allegations that some dentists were "drilling for gold", and defrauding both patients and the taxpayer.

Mr Barney Hayhoe, Minister for Health, last night promised action this year on the majority of the report's 52 recommendations.

The inquiry has concluded that there was a "small but significant and unacceptable amount of deliberate and unnecessary treatment" and "a larger amount attributable to an out-of-date treatment philosophy".

The majority of dentists were honest and provided a good service on which the public can rely, the inquiry concluded.

But there were cases of persistent and flagrant abuse. Unnecessary treatment was a significant factor in cases brought before service committees and particularly in orthodontics, the treatment of crooked or overcrowded teeth in children, "much unnecessary and costly treatment may be taking place".

The system of checking on abuse was, however, so poor that "we do not consider that dentists who are tempted to over prescibe will be deterred by any fear of detection of punishment under the present system", the inquiry's report said.

On the basis of the evidence, the inquiry said, "some dentists will have both the motive and the opportunity to prescribe unnecessary treatment".

To tackle the situation the new computer being installed by the Dental Estimates Board, the NHS paymaster for dentists, should be programmed so that dentists whose treatment was out-of-line with the majority could be identified.

The inquiry urged that systems be set up to follow individual patients so that a sudden increase or decrease in treatment when a patient changes dentists could raise suspicion. More dental reference officers, who check up on quality of treatment and whose numbers have been cut in recent years, should be appointed.

Once statistical evidence produced a clear inference that unnecessary treatment was taking place, the burden of proof should be on the dentist to show that this was not the case, the inquiry recommended.

Where a dentist's pattern of treatment was significantly out-of-line, the Dental Estimates Board should be able to insist that prior approval would be needed, for a period, for the types of treatment in question.

If the level of prescribing did not fall, or the dentists was unable to convince the board that the treatment was justified, disciplinary action would follow.

The report also made a series of recommendations to strengthen and speed up disciplinary hearings.

In addition, dentists should be required to explain the plan of treatment, giving an estimate of cost, and a publicity campaign should be mounted to emphasize to patients that any examination may not necessarily have to lead to further treatment.

The report said the issue of whether very highly paid dentists earn their fees legitimately had to be resolved. In 1984, more than 280 dentists had gross earnings over £100,000, and the highest paid received £241,590.

The figures had caused "public disquiet", but the report said it was difficult to decide whether there was a correlation between very high earnings and unnecessary treatment, although in 1982 a dentist who grossed more than £250,000 had £50,000 held back for treatment that was considered not clinically necessary.

One important measure was to insist dentists produced evidence of their own individual earnings and no longer, as at present, mixed in earnings by associates and assistants.

The report pointed out it was extremely difficult to detect unnecessary treatment afterwards, and that while only 35 cases have been put to the Dental Advisory Service in the past two years "we suspect these cases are no more than a sample of the abuse which goes on".

The British Dental Association was heartened by the finding that the vast majority of dentists were not undertaking unnecessary treatment and wholeheartedly supported the recommendations.

Report of the Committee of Inquiry into Unnecessary Dental Treatment (Stationery Office; £5.50).

Duchy acts on shabby flats

By Charles Knevitt
Architecture Correspondent

The Duchy of Cornwall, which manages land and property for the Prince of Wales, has commissioned one of the country's leading firms of community architects to undertake a feasibility study on a run-down block of flats in Kennington, south-east London, it was announced yesterday.

Hunt Thompson Associates, of Camden Town, north London, was appointed on the recommendation of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

Newquay House, near the Oval, the Duchy's largest block, was built in 1933. Tenants, many descended from families who worked for the Duchy, had complained that 23 of the 76 flats are empty, some for several years. Rents are so low that they do not cover the cost of maintenance and people wishing to be housed have been told that they will have to buy a property.

Prices for flats in the area are between £50,000 and £100,000.

The Duchy administers 600 terrace homes and flats in Kennington. The Prince has met community leaders in response to criticisms about the management of the estate, but there is a dilemma because the Duchy is a profit-making business under the Duchy of Cornwall Management Act. Properties must be sold at full commercial value.

Hunt Thompson was founded in 1969 by Mr John Thompson, Mr Bernard Hunt and Prince Richard, now Duke of Gloucester, when they completed their architectural training at Cambridge. Mr Ben Derbyshire, recently appointed a partner and a vice-chairman of the RIBA's Community Architecture Group, will begin the study in the next few weeks.

The Prince has shown great interest in the way community architects involve users of buildings in design and management.



Mr Ben Derbyshire at Newquay House, the run-down block of flats he hopes to revive.

The study will be submitted to a committee comprising Mr Larry Rolland, president of the RIBA, Mr Rod Hackney, a community architect in Macclesfield who has been advising the Duchy, and another architect yet to be appointed.

Hunt Thompson's best known community architecture project is the modernization of the Lea View Estate, Hackney, east London, which has been shortlisted for the *Times*/RIBA Community Enterprise Scheme.

The Duchy also manages 130,000 acres of land in the West Country. Profit in 1984 was £1.2 million.

Gatwick jewel theft covered by 'all risks'

A woman who had jewellery valued at £29,000 stolen at Gatwick airport was told by her insurance company that under her "all risks" policy she was not covered.

But a High Court judge said yesterday: "An all risks policy is precisely what it says."

Mr Justice Hodgson awarded Mrs Josephine Port-Rose, a mother of four, £29,000 damages, with interest and costs, against Phoenix Assurance. He said: "If the Phoenix was right, it would be a trap for the unwary assured."

When Phoenix rejected Mrs Port-Rose's claim, her legal adviser wrote back saying "this must be construed to be the cop-out of all time". The judge said: "That was not an exaggeration. I endorse it in those terms."

In his ruling, the judge said Mrs Port-Rose and her husband, Samuel, who live in the Algarve, Portugal, where they have an estate agency, flew to Gatwick from Portugal in April 1984 with their two teenage sons.

Mrs Port-Rose left her handbag, containing the jewellery, on an airport trolley for two or three seconds while she gave directions to an elderly woman. That was the only time the bag was left unattended.

She discovered the bag was missing when one son asked for money for a rail fare.

The insurance company told Mrs Port-Rose that leaving the bag unattended was a breach of the policy conditions.

But the judge said: "If members of the public knew that, by leaving a handbag on a trolley and taking your eyes off it for two or three seconds, you are taking yourself out of insurance cover, after having paid substantial premiums, they would be quite astonished."

Satanism secrecy refused by judge

The judge in the "Satan swindle" trial refused yesterday to hear part of the evidence in secret.

The request had been made by the Rev John Baker, who said that lives could be in danger if evidence was given in open court about devil-worshipping objects. The danger was to the accused, Derry Mainwaring Knight, himself, and others.

There were "things too dangerous to talk about", he said.

But after hearing legal argument at Maidstone Crown Court, Judge Denison told Mr Baker, rector of Newick, East Sussex, of his decision.

The judge added: "I bear in mind what you said yesterday. If you feel there's a matter which you can't safely deal with in these circumstances you must tell me."

Mr Knight, aged 46, of Dormans Land, Surrey, is accused of swindling the rector and wealthy Christians out of £203,850, claiming he needed money to buy and destroy regalia used by a satanic circle.

Mr Baker said that Mr Knight had told him that the satanic order wanted him to raise money for certain items by blackmail. Mr Knight said he knew a bank manager who had "taken advantage" of a woman client and could be blackmailed.

Yet Knight had earlier claimed that all the money for buying artefacts had to be "clean", given in love by a Christian source. If it was "unclean—illegal, dishonest or criminal", the devil would still have a hold on him when the artefacts were destroyed. He later dismissed the idea of blackmail.

Mr Baker refused to give precise details of the hierarchy of satanic sects in open court.

The case continues today.

Nobel nomination delights Geldof

Bob Geldof, whose charity fund for African famine relief has just topped £60 million, said yesterday he was delighted to be nominated for the 1986 Nobel peace prize.

Mr Geldof, who was nominated too late for the award last year, again urged governments to continue the initiative to end Third World hunger.

The Boomtown Rats singer, who hails from the Irish Republic, was one of 85 nominees for the prize.

Speaking in London, where he is continuing work on his autobiography, Mr Geldof said the Live Aid concerts, watched by millions throughout the world last summer, were "a beautiful shooting star.

"So to be nominated for the Nobel peace prize for such a thing is very pleasing. I am delighted."

A Band Aid spokesman said he felt certain that if Mr Geldof won the prize he would dedicate it to everybody who gave and helped the relief effort.

Schools join computer information network

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

All computers in middle and secondary schools in Britain will be able to communicate with each other using equipment provided by a new £1 million government fund.

The equipment is to be funded by the Department of Trade and Industry, and will also allow school computers to connect with electronic information libraries, called databases, containing a range of educational material.

The modems, connect a school computer via a telephone line to a central computer or electronic library.

A department spokesman said: "The initial aim is to ensure that every secondary and middle school has at least one modem.

"It may also be possible to provide additional modems for special schools, teacher centres, primary schools and further education institutions."

Mast rescue attempt

Two firemen are to be recommended for bravery awards after they climbed a 370ft radio mast yesterday in an attempt to talk down a man aged 41.

The firemen, Mr Ken Smith, aged 37, of Rydal Street, Gateshead, and Mr Alan Scales, aged 30, of Chapel Park, Newcastle upon Tyne, defied freezing conditions and falling snow as they tried to persuade the man to climb down from the ice-covered British Rail mast near Birtley, Tyne and Wear.

The firemen had to abandon their attempt after two hours because of the cold, but the unnamed Gateshead man came down when his son, aged 17, appealed to him through a loudhailer.

£½m antiques stolen

Paintings by Fantin Latour, Caspar Netscher, and Gabriel Metsu, and seventeenth-century mahogany tables are among valuables worth up to £500,000 stolen from a country house near Louth

The house is the home of an unidentified recluse aged 89. Police said the owner disturbed four masked men who were ransacking his home but was powerless to stop them taking the antiques.

Netball girl loses part-time shop job

By Tim Jones

A schoolgirl who had a part-time job in a sports shop has been dismissed after being picked to play netball for the junior Welsh national team.

Nicola Smith, aged 16, was told to go when she asked for a Saturday off to play her first international against England and Scotland in a tournament at Derby.

After training yesterday, Nicola, of Chapelwood, Llanedeyrn, Cardiff, said: "I am very upset and disappointed. I could hardly believe it when I was told I was getting the sack. I thought the sports shop would be pleased to have an international working for them."

Mr Laurie Davies, manager of the Castle Sports Shop, in Cardiff, said: "She was a very, very good worker and I am sorry I had to dismiss her. But this Saturday is going to be a busy day for us with a cross country event in Cardiff and I need all my staff. She has already missed two Saturdays this year for squad sessions so I do not think I really had any alternative."

The Welsh Netball Association has written to Mr Davies asking him to reconsider his decision.

Church choice

The Rev James Nelson, a convicted murderer, is to become minister of the Calderbank and Chapelhall Church of Scotland parishes, in Lanarkshire. He began studying for the ministry while in jail for killing his mother.

Card record

A world record of £540 has been paid for an Edwardian postcard showing a shop front in Market Street, at Wymondham, Norfolk. It was bought by a local collector at an auction in the town.

Airlines face pilot shortage crisis

By Alan Hamilton

British airlines face a serious shortage of trained pilots by 1990 unless there is a rapid increase in the intake of approved flying schools, according to a report by the industry-funded Air Transport Training Association.

The report said pilot training had been virtually moribund for the five years because of industry recession and the high cost of tuition at Britain's three Civil Aviation Authority-approved schools.

But with the aviation industry showing signs of expansion, and a high proportion of pilots due to retire within the next 15 years, the association believes the need to recruit a new generation of pilots is becoming urgent.

British Airways, Britain's largest airline, has no pilots aged under 30, while 1,200 out of its strength of 2,000 will have retired by the end of the century. Retirement age for its pilots is 55.

British Airways will begin recruiting again next year, starting with young, experienced pilots from other airlines and proceeding to the training of 100 beginners each year.

Preparing a trainee to fly a commercial jet costs a minimum of £35,000. The association believes British Airways' expansion will merely soak up experienced pilots from smaller British airlines, leaving them short of qualified personnel.

The association said that in 1980 the three principal commercial flying schools, at Hamble, Perth and Oxford, employed 150 instructors. Now there are only 38 and the Hamble school, once sponsored by British Airways, has closed.

Another former source of commercial pilots, the Royal Air Force, has largely dried up, with defence cuts reducing overall numbers and those remaining being lured by foreign commercial airlines for huge salaries.

The association called on the Government to provide more money to help to fund pilot training. It also recommended that CAA rules be changed to ensure that pilots financing their own training at private flying schools are brought within a more formal structure.



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The competition was fierce. In fact, the council's experts inspected more than 11,000 sites throughout the U.K. to arrive at the Supreme Winner. They were looking for points such as site safety and organisation, quality of workmanship and standard of finish – in short, overall pride in the job from site preparation to sales.

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PRIDE IN THE JOB

Barratt

Tommy Proctor, site supervisor, Barratt Developments, Charlotte Square, Newcastle upon Tyne, National Pride in the Job Award Winn

PARLIAMENT FEBRUARY 20 1986 — Leyland sale • Jobless figures • Crime seminar

Taxpayers cannot pay more to BL

PM's QUESTIONS

Every family in the United Kingdom has contributed the equivalent of £200 to British Leyland and such a situation could not continue, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister said in a clash with Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, who demanded to know what assurances were being sought from potential buyers of various parts of the car and truck manufacturing company.

There were no binding enforcible assurances about the future of a loss-making British Leyland, Mrs Thatcher added. The Government was seeking the best future for Land Rover, Freight Rover and for the whole of BL, and the best future for jobs through the extension of trade and business.

The issue was first raised by Mr Mark Fisher (Stoke-on-Trent Central, Lab) who asked: Will the Prime Minister tell the House when she first knew of the deadline of March 4 for firm offers to acquire parts of BL?

Amid Labour protests, Mrs Thatcher commented that she had nothing to add to what she had already said the matter.

Mr Jeremy Hanley (Richmond and Barnes, C): British companies made acquisitions to the tune of £4 billion in the United States last year. Therefore, acquisitions in the United Kingdom by the United States is by no means a one way street.

Mrs Thatcher: Yes, I saw the very detailed account in one of the papers today of inward and outward investment.

Figures published in The Financial Times show that British companies acquired 160 businesses in the United States last year and 142 in 1984. I hope that acquisition by British companies in the United States was welcome to the United States.

Mr Kinnock: What specific assurances are being sought from potential purchasers of the constituent parts of BL and in addition what means are beign adopted to ensure that such assurances are enforced in contracts.

Mrs Thatcher: Mr Channon, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, has indicated some of the assurances being sought, assurances of the kind that the British nature of Land Rover in particular and Range Rover should be honoured and, of course, certain assurances on sourcing.

Mr Kinnock: Can she convince us that "honoured" is the equivalent of binding assurances that actually will determine *the future of an essential* part of the British auto industry?

What did the Under Secretary of State for Trade and Industry (Lord Lucas of Chilworth) mean yesterday in the House of Lords when he said: "In respect of all such assurances in regard to British content, trade marks, names and the like, in law there is a time limitation"?

Mrs Thatcher: Lord Lucas of Chilworth was perfectly clear in what he said in the House of Lords. I do not understand why Mr Kinnock finds difficulty with it.

Mr Kinnock: Does "best future" as defined by her include a binding enforcible assurance?

Mrs Thatcher: He must see how long enforcible assurances can be instituted; he must get legal advice on that. That is



Thatcher: Every family has paid £200

precisely what was meant when it was said there was no binding enforcible assurances about the future of a loss-making BL.

Mr Richard Page: (South West Hertfordshire, C). It was well known to MPs and by unions that discussions between General Motors and BL were taking place months before Christmas. Would she like to comment on the fact that either the Labour party is ill-informed, or they have waited for the right moment for political capital and are not worried about the future of BL?

Mrs Thatcher: The taxpayer has already put into BL some £2.2 billion and guaranteed a further £1.6 billion.

Mr Michael Meadowcroft (Leeds West, L): Many of us who have voiced concern about increasing US involvement in British Industry are not motivated by anti-American sentiment but are simply concerned and deeply worried that what is happening to BL, Westlands and whole areas of our computer industry is going to ensure that inexorably crucial decisions about the character and development of British industry are made in the US. Is she going to sit back and let that happen?

Mrs Thatcher: This country invests abroad and British companies go abroad on a very considerable scale. For example, ICI made a very big investment and I believe they are welcomed in the US and there is no anti-British feeling there.

I fear some anti-American feelings – some deliberately – has been aroused in the UK about the future of BL. All bids are being considered but we are concerned about the future of BL and trying to get it privatised.

Mr John Hannam (Exeter, C): Has she noticed the Vickers consortium proposals for the buy out of the shipyards at Barrow and Birkenhead and the way local communities have been involved in these proposals?

In view of the success of the National Freight Corporation worker buy out, will she confirm it is still Government policy to encourage wider ownership in British industry?

Mrs Thatcher: Yes, to further privatization and to wider ownership, and we shall consider that bid along with all the others.

● When a conclusion was reached over the future of BL Mr Channon would make a statement to the Commons and the Government accepted it was up to the House to debate and decide upon the negotiation, Mr John Biffen Leader of the Commons, said during exchanges following his business statement.

Mr Kinnock had asked for a clear guarantee that the Commons would have a chance to debate the whole BL issue before any deal was struck.

New statistics to provide better picture

EMPLOYMENT

In order to ensure greater accuracy Lord Young of Graffham, Secretary of State for Employment said in a statement to the House of Lords, he had agreed that the compilation and publication of the monthly unemployment statistics would take place some two weeks later than at present.

This is not a major change in presentation but (he said), the improved estimates will allow a more complete and accurate picture to be given of the latest labour market development.

Lord Stoddart of Swindon (Lab) said the statement appeared to have been forced out of him by Mr John Prescott in the House of Commons who Lord Young of Graffham had been unwilling to meet in face-to-face discussion on the BBC Breakfast Time that morning.

Why did he not make a proper statement in the first place (he said) instead of attempting to slip the matter through by means of a written question?

Such action shows complete insensitivity (he continued) and it would seem the Government has learnt nothing from the Westland affair and British Leyland where their attempts at covering up have led to lack of trust in them by the public and a catatrosphic drop in support in the country.

The Paymaster General in the House of Commons said he had not been aware that No 10 was going to brief the press on these documents and had not approved of it doing so, but had Lord Young of Graffham known of the briefing and if he had why did he not tell his deputy in the House of Commons.

In the statement (said Lord Stoddart of Swindon) he says this is not a major change but clearly the government sees the laundering of serious unemployment figures as a means of hiding a grave unemployment crisis.

No doubt the changes were being made not really for statistical purposes but for political purposes. The laundered figures were part of a £1million publicity campaign launched by the government to brainwash the public into believing the unemployment crisis was less grave than it really was.

Lady Seear (L) said it was extraordinary that the Secretary of State had not found time to make the statement to the House rather than leaving peers to find out by reading it in the press.

It was extraordinary, since there was a highly competent Department of Employment, that so many changes needed to be made in the statistics. It could not be regarded as good statistical practice.

Lord Young of Graffham, said it was seldom that he felt angry in the House but he had to refute every stricture from Lord Stoddart of Swindon.

Before he had mentioned allegations of the Paymaster General talking of leaks from No 10 he should look at the record which showed that no such comment had been made because there had been no such thing.

At the Breakfast Time broadcast, Mr Prescott was asked whether, if he were Secretary of State and his statisticians advised him about the need for changes in statistics he would accept that advice, and he had replied that it was a reasonably justified point that he was prepared to accept.

Knowing of the great interest in both houses on employment maners it had been decided to announce the changes by written question but there had not been time for him to make a statement to the House of Lords.

Referring to the alleged £1 million campaign, he said it must be a very ineffective campaign because he knew nothing of it.

The statement on changes to the unemployment figures was repeated, amid laughter and loud Labour interruptions, in the Commons, by Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Paymaster General.

Mr John Prescott, chief Opposition spokesman on employment, said the eight-line statement was an insult to MPs' intelligence. (Labour cheers).

One is forced (he said) to read the library statement to see the real intent and impact of this further fiddling of the unemployment figures.

Mr Clarke said Mr Prescott should take the unlikely step of imagining himself as paymaster general. The statisticians in the department said they had discovered an unacceptable error in the monthly figures and asked for permission to correct that and this was given.

Is he really saying to the House (he continued) that were he secretary of state for employment he would say to the statisticians: "No, do not correct this mistake; carry on making what you regard as an error"? We know he would not say that. This morning on breakfastime television he was asked that question and had to agree that he would have made the self-same change. I do not want to advise him on how to behave to civil servants were he ever to take office.

Home Secretary to chair crime prevention study

LAW AND ORDER

Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, told the Commons at question time that he is to chair a follow-up in the summer to the recent seminar on crime prevention to take stock of progress. I believe (he added) that there is huge scope for local schemes on many different kinds of crime prevention and we are working hard to encourage these.

Mr David Mackay (Penrith and the Border, C) said the whole community must be involved. What steps were being taken to get the message across that it was necessary to involve insurance companies, motor manufacturers, builders and small community groups?

Mr Hurd: He is right. That is the main purpose of the seminar. On wider publicity, the magpie television advertisements shown in London and the Midlands were followed in the next quarter by an 11 per cent decrease in burglaries. We are now extending this programme to the North.

Mr Roy Hughes (Newport East, Lab) drew the Home Secretary's attention to a Commons order paper motion concerning the case of Peter William Jones. Yesterday (he continued) in Newport Crown Court he received a life sentence. Many people in Newport and elsewhere cannot understand why this man with such a record of violence was allowed to roam the streets and eventually end up by raping a 7-year-old girl. Will he call for an *urgent review of this sentencing* and parole procedure?

Mr Hurd: I cannot comment on a sentence passed in court by the independent judiciary and I have no intention of doing so. But I will look into any aspects of that case which fall within my responsibility.

Mr John Evans (St Helens North, Lab): The best way to cut down crime would be to cut the appalling level of unemployment. Does he accept that one way of cutting the appalling level of unemployment would be to accept the programme put forward by the employment select committee which would take 750,000 people out of the dole queues immediately?

Mr Hurd: I would not accept that. Ninety-five per cent of crime is crime against property. A large percentage of that is opportunistic – not prepared long in advance. Crime prevention could cut down this figure substantially if better applied.

Mr John Stokes (Halesowen and Stourbridge, C): Since so much crime is concerned with motor cars, will you impress on motor manufacturers that they should use cars with burglar-proof locks?

Mr Hurd: An excellent point. One of the results of the No 10 seminar was an agreement that there should be a British standard for car security to be prepared by the British Standards Institution precisely to deal with this point.

Mr Gerald Kaufman, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs: Will he arrange for the publication of the letter the Prime Minister's office has sent to all participants in the so-called crime seminar last month from which it will be plain to anyone who reads it that the Government is not taking one firm action for crime prevention and not spending one penny of new money on crime prevention? It was less a seminar than an episode from *Spitting Image*.



Hurd: Huge scope for local prevention schemes

Mr Hurd: I am amazed that he should make this mistake. How many people in Manchester and everywhere suffer from this opportunistic crime which could be prevented. The General Secretary of the TUC, Mr Norman Willis, was at the seminar. He spoke warmly to us on the way we should try to rally general support for crime prevention. That was the purpose of the seminar and the purpose of the letter to which Mr Kaufman refers.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Civil Protection in Peacetime Bill, second reading; Tobacco Products (Sports Sponsorship) Bill, second reading, and other private members' Bills.

Realistic strategy to deal with crime

HOME OFFICE

A major initiative to deploy the unemployed on crime prevention work in the Community Programme was to be undertaken, Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary said during Commons questions.

The Government's strategy for fighting crime was practical and realistic and the Government would pursue vigorously proposals arising from the Prime Minister's crime prevention seminar.

They will continue to provide the police with resources and powers to help them in their task, and the court with adequate powers to deal with offenders.

Mr William Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab): Violent crime has increased more than 60 per cent under this Government. Does Mr Hurd not regret the way the Tory party and Tory Government deceived the electorate in 1979 and 1983 elections by pretending there are simple solutions to these problems? The social causes of crime were real. The deprivation as a result of crumbling housing stock and the massive increase in unemployment are important factors and unless and until the Government realises these hard facts the figures will continue to escalate.

Mr Hurd said he did not believe there were simple answers to crime. But the Conservatives alone had a practical and realistic strategy to deal with it.

There was endless debate about the root causes of crime.

He agreed that social problems, particularly those of the inner cities, needed to be tackled and the Government was doing this.

Mr Timothy Yeo (South Suffolk, C) said that whatever theoretical research might purport to show, commonsense suggested that people were influenced by what they saw on television. And if young people, particularly, were subjected to a constant diet of violent television programmes there was likely to be an increase in violent behaviour.

Mr Hurd agreed. Commonsense pointed in that direction, he said. This was why he was so anxious that the broadcasting authorities, in addition to the admirable existing guidelines, should exert themselves to make sure they were fully respected.

Mr Donald Dixon (Jarrow, Lab) recalled that a constituent aged 15 had bought a lethal cross-bow. The Home Office had said it was an important matter which was kept under review. Had anything been done about it? Would the Government bring in legislation to prohibit the sale of these bows?

Mr Hurd agreed there was public concern. The Government was looking urgently to see if anything sensible could be done.

Tenants' protection to stay

HOUSING

The Government was not proposing in this Parliament to introduce major legislation to recast the Rent Act, Mr John Patten, Minister for Housing, Urban Affairs and Construction, said during a Commons debate on the treatment of private tenants.

The Government was ready to listen and ready to promote arguments about what could and should be done. The Government had taken no decisions on what form any legislation should take to reduce controls over new tenancies.

We have no intention (he said) of removing the protection enjoyed by existing tenants. That was one mistake made in 1957; the removal of statutory controls from existing tenancies at the top end of the market led to widespread evictions by the voluntary landlords, those who were not landlords by choice and took the opportunity to obtain vacant possession and to sell up.

But if we want in future to encourage the private sector to make "unused" accomodation available for renting, and to invest in accomodation for rent, it is essential that for new letting, rents should provide economic returns.

Local authorities estimated that in England 545,000 private sector homes were empty in April 1985, nearly 100,000 of them in London where the problem of homelessness was greatest. Many of those homes could be let to people who needed them if landlords were not inhibited by the effect of the Rent Act.

An Opposition motion asserting the right to buy from a non-residential absentee landlord, the right to manage for both tenants and leaseholders of flats; and calling for a review of rent regulation so as to close loopholes in the Rent Act, was rejected by 258 votes to 177—Government majority, 81.

A Government amendment asserting the need for a healthy and reviving private rented sector with an adequate supply of sound homes to rent as being in the best interests of tenants and landlords and those looking for accomodation; and asserting the need for improved statutory safeguards to ensure proper management of privately-owned blocks of flats, was agreed by 228 votes to 150—Government majority, 78.

Rachmanism, the exploitation by landlords of tenants in dilapidated private property, was alive and well in 1986, Mr Jeffrey Rooker, Opposition spokesman on housing, said, when opening the debate.

He said the rights of two million families in private tenancies needed strengthening. Many of them did not have a secure home. Assured tenancies applied only to newly constructed dwellings.

Hopes for increased security cooperation

ULSTER

The Prime Minister said she had agreed with the Irish Prime Minister, Dr Garrett Fitzgerald, in their talks at Downing Street yesterday that the Anglo-Irish agreement must be implemented.

Mrs Thatcher said in the Commons at question time that she also hoped for increased security cooperation across the Border. She very much welcomed Dr Fitgerald's decision to sign the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism.

Everything possible would be done to reassure Unionist opinion about structures of consultation with them, and she hoped the SDLP would soon honour its commitment to enter into talks about devolution which would put much more power into a devolved Assembly.

Mrs Thatcher was replying to Mr Merlyn Rees (Leeds South and Morley, Lab), a former Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, who complained that there had been no statement to the House despite several recent developments.

These included the reaction to the Anglo-Irish agreement in the Province; the reported calls from an elected representative to take over the parliament building at Stormont; and the report of the Ulster workers' strike planned for March 3. Discussion was taking place elsewhere but not in the Commons, he said.

Earlier, Mr Enoch Powell (South Down, OUP) asked: Does she realize that hundreds of thousands of her fellow citizens, who she regards as no less British than her constituents in London, are looking to her to defend with courage and visibility their rights and status?

Mrs Thatcher replied: I will be seeing leaders of the Unionist parties next week and possibly the SDLP after that. I hope and believe that people who are completely Unionist in Northern Ireland will accept the decisions of this House.

Thatcher says she will stay as leader

Mrs Thatcher repeated during question times in the Commons her aim of leading the Conservative party to a third election victory.

Mr Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield, C) asked: Would she assure those of us on the Conservative benches who honourably disagree from time to time with Government policy but do not question her courageous leadership or determination to restore the economic and political power of the UK that she will continue to respond robustly to the hypocritical, irresponsible, carping cant of the Opposition partys and lead the Conservatives into a third successful general election?

Mrs Thatcher: Yes, on the same excellent policies which secured the first two victories.

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab) now that the Prime Minsiter in her recent broadcast has become very concerned about the low paid and the levels of taxation, will she take the necessary steps to *abolish the poll tax*?

Mrs Thatcher: There is no poll tax what we have proposed is a community charge which will be rebated. I note he favours a system in which many people pay nothing in local rates but put up public expenditure.

Police attack on youths 'damaging'

Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, admitted in the Commons that the attack on five youths by two police offices in North London two years ago was deeply damaging to the Metropolitan Police and would continue to be so unless and until it was cleared up.

He was questioned over the incident by Mr Christopher Smith (Islington South and Finsbury, Lab) and Mr Gerald Kaufman, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs.

Mr Kaufman: There is a grave danger that unless the men *responsible for this unwarranted* crime are discovered and dealt with there will be an increase in public anxiety and the good name of the Metropolitan Police will be sullied.

Will Mr Hurd make it clear that men who shield criminals within the Metroplitan Police collude in the crime of these men? Is it appropriate for him to consider whether such men, unless they assist in discovering the criminals, should remain members of the police force?

Mr Hurd said the burden of proof was exactly the same for police officers as for any other citizen. The Metropolitan Police had made it clear that if fresh evidence came to light it would be investigated.

Progress in talks about Cyprus

Mrs Thatcher described her recent talks with Mr Turgat Ozal, the Turkish Prime Minister as very good and said she believed he was making enormous strides in improving human rights in his country.

They had dicussed the situation in Cyprus, she said, and they hoped both parts of the island which were currently artifically partitioned would co-operate with Mr Perez De Cuellar of the United Nations who was seeking a satsifactory solution in Cyprus. She was replying to Mr Richard Hickmet (Glanford and Scunthorpe C) who had asked her to comment on Anglo-Turkish relations following Mr Ozal's visit and to agree that Turkey was committed to a just and fair solution for both communities in Cyprus.

Alarm at forestry sale rumours

Conservative and Labour MPs were united in pressing for more details of reports that the Government was thinking of privatising up to three million acres of forestry land.

But Mr John Biffen, Leader of the Commons, said during business questions he knew nothing of the reports. However, he would consider the situation and decide what to do in the light of what was revealed.

Mr Peter Shore, Shadow Leader of the House, referred to rumours mentioned by Mr John Maxton (Glasgow, Cathcart, Lab).

If a statement has been made outside the House (he said) will Mr Biffen make arrangements for a statement today? We have had enough of these statements being made outside this House. (Loud Labour cheers).

Mr Robert Maclennan (Caithness and Sutherland, SDP) asked for a denial of the reports about proposed privatization of Forestry Commission land. Land prices were already plummeting, because of falling agricultural incomes.

Sir Paul Hawkins (Norfolk South West, C) said he was totally opposed to any idea of selling forestry land. His consituency had what was probably the greatest forestry acreage in the country and it was greatly enjoyed for leisure purposes.

Court of Appeal — **Law Report** February 21 1986 — Court of Appeal

No remedy in Berlin firing range nuisance claim

Regina v Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, Ex parte Trawnik and Another

Before Lord Justice May, Lord Justice Ralph Gibson and Lord Justice Stocker

[Judgment given February 18]

The contents of certificates issued by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs under section 40(3)(*a*) of the Crown Proceedings Act 1947 and section 21 of the State Immunity Act 1978 were conclusive evidence of any matters, whether of fact or of law or of mixed fact or law which were certified in them.

It followed that any application for judicial review of such a certificate, although not precluded by the provisions of either Act, would, if based on the proposition that that which had been certified was so clearly wrong that the certificate had to be a nullity, be bound to fail because no extrinsic evidence could be called.

The Court of Appeal so held, dismissing two appeals by the applicants, Gunter Trawnick and Louise Reimelt, from the determination by the Queen's Bench Divisional Court on April 16, 1985 (*The Times* April 18, 1985), of three preliminary issues ordered to be tried in connection with their applications for judicial review of three certificates issued by the secretary of state on November 3, 1983, and November 1, 1984, under the 1947 Act, and on September 17, 1984, under the 1978 Act.

Mr John MacDonald, QC and Mr Owen Davies for the applicants; Mr John Mummery for the secretary of state.

LORD JUSTICE MAY said that there was a proposal to establish a machine-gun range at Gatow in West Berlin for use by British troops stationed there. The applicants were German citizens living near the site who feared that they would suffer *nuisance as a result of the noise*.

The German court in West Berlin, where they first attempted to ventilate the matter, had no jurisdiction to try any suit involving a member of the Allied Kommandatura in Berlin unless authorized to do so. An application for such authority was refused.

The applicants consequently issued a writ in the Chancery Division of the High Court, claiming, in a *quia timet* action, declarations against the Ministry of Defence on the ground of anticipated nuisance.

The Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, then issued the first of the two certificates under section 40(3)(*a*) of the Crown Proceedings Act 1947, which provided that such a certificate should "for the purposes of this Act, be conclusive as to the matter so certified".

The certificate stated that "any liability of the Crown alleged in the [applicants'] action . . . arises otherwise than in respect of Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom".

On April 16, 1984, Sir Robert Megarry, Vice-Chancellor, struck out the action against the Ministry of Defence but gave the applicants leave to add the Attorney General and Major General Gordon Lennox, the British military commandant in Berlin, as defendants (*Trawnik v Ministry of Defence* (*The Times* April 19, 1984; [1985] 1 WLR 532).

Subsequently, the Court of Appeal allowed the Attorney General's appeal against the joinder order (*Trawnik v Lennox and Another* (*The Times* December 14, 1984; [1985] 1 WLR 532). Major General Lennox's application to set aside the proceedings against him had yet to be determined.

On September 17, 1984, the Foreign Secretary issued the second certificate, under section 21 of the State Immunity Act 1978, which provided that such a certificate was "conclusive evidence on any question (*a*) whether any . . . territory is a constituent territory of a federal state . . . or as to the person or persons to be regarded [for the purposes of Part I of the Act] as the head or government of a state . . .".

The certificate stated that Germany was a state and that the persons to be regarded as its government included the Kommandatura of Berlin, including Major General Lennox.

The third certificate, issued on November 1, 1984, was in the same terms as the first, issued under the 1947 Act, except that it referred to the action as amended to include the Attorney General and Major General Lennox.

On December 17, 1984, Mr Justice McNeill gave leave to issue proceedings for judicial review of the certificates and ordered preliminary issues to be tried as to: "whether the fact that the certificates are . . . conclusive as to the matters referred to . . . precludes judicial review of the certificates in relation to the matter certified and renders inadmissible all evidence . . . in contradiction of the terms of the certificates."

The Divisional Court held that judicial review did not lie in respect of the certificates, which precluded the admission of any evidence in respect of the matters certified in contradiction of the certificates.

On appeal, the applicants sought principally to attack the two certificates under the 1947 Act. They drew attention to the words "for the purposes of this Act" in section 40(3)(*a*) and submitted that the certificate was not conclusive as to proceedings for judicial review.

Further, it was submitted that in the Chancery Division proceedings, a certificate could only be conclusive if it was a valid one; it was for the courts and not the secretary of state to determine whether a certificate was valid: see *Anisminic Ltd v Foreign Compensation Commission* ([1969] 2 AC 147, 170) *per* Lord Reid.

There were numerous matters which, if the applicants were allowed to refer to them in judicial review proceedings, would be more than sufficient to show that the statement in each certificate was so obviously incorrect that it had to be a nullity.

But in his Lordship's view, the fact that the Divisional Court had reached the correct decision could now be shown merely by reference to the judgments of the Court of Appeal in *R v Registrar of Companies, Ex parte Central Bank of India* (*The Times* August 2, 1985; [1986] 2 WLR 177).

In that case the relevant statutory provision was section 98(2) of the Companies Act 1948, which provided that a certificate issued by the registrar in pursuance of the Act "shall be conclusive evidence that the requirements of this Part of this Act . . . have been complied with."

The *ratio* of the decision was directly in point in the instant appeal: As a matter of construction, the words "shall . . . be conclusive as to the matter so certified" in section 40(3)(*a*) were equivalent to a provision that the certificate should be conclusive evidence of the matters certified, whether those were questions of fact or law or of mixed fact and law.

Such words did not preclude an application for judicial review of the certificate but such an application, if based on the proposition that what had been certified was so clearly wrong that the certificate had to be a nullity, would be bound to fail because the evidence which counsel would wish to call to prove that very thing could not be adduced.

So far as the certificate under the State Immunity Act 1978 was concerned, the position was *a fortiori* having regard to the actual wording of section 21 of that Act.

If it were necessary to decide the point, the matters certified in the certificates were "matters of state" relating to questions of recognition arising in the conduct of foreign relations and, once held to be so, were not reviewable by the courts: see *Council of Civil Service Unions v Minister for the Civil Service* ([1985] AC 374).

Finally, his Lordship agreed with the view expressed by the Divisional Court that section 14 of the Tribunals and Inquiries Act 1971 did not apply to the issue of the certificates by the Foreign Secretary in the instant case.

It followed that the preliminary issues had to be answered in the secretary of state's favour and the appeal should be dismissed.

Lord Justice Ralph Gibson and Lord Justice Stocker delivered concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Seifert Sedley Williams; Treasury Solicitor.

Test for upsetting industrial tribunal

Neale v Hereford and Worcester County Council

Where an industrial tribunal had done its job of finding facts, applying the relevant law and reaching the conclusions to which its findings and the experience of its members led it, it would not be often that an appellate tribunal or court could legitimately say that its conclusion offended reason or was one to which no reasonable tribunal could have come.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice May, Lord Justice Ralph Gibson and Lord Justice Stocker) so stated on February 18, allowing the employer's appeal from the Employment Appeal Tribunal.

LORD JUSTICE MAY said that an industrial tribunal was in many ways an industrial jury. It knew its area, each member had substantial experience of industrial problems, and heard that type of case regularly.

When it had not erred in law, neither the Employment Appeal Tribunal nor the Court of Appeal should disturb its decision unless one could say in effect: "My goodness, that was certainly wrong".

LORD JUSTICE RALPH GIBSON said that it would be unwise and potentially unfair for a tribunal to rely on matters which occurred to members after the hearing, not having been mentioned or treated as relevant by the parties, without the party against whom the point was raised being given the opportunity to deal with it, unless the tribunal could be *entirely sure that the* point was so clear that the party could not make any useful comment in explanation.

A tribunal was entitled to, and should, have regard to a point which had not been mentioned or to which little or no weight had been attached, according to their own assessment of it, but in forming that assessment it should pay careful and proper attention to the course of the hearing and the way in which and the extent to which a point had been made and relied upon.

Time not relevant

O'Shea v Immediate Sound Services Ltd

Periods of time applicable in the High Court before cases were struck out for want of prosecution were not relevant to actions in industrial tribunals, Mr Justice Popplewell said on February 13, sitting in the Employment Appeal Tribunal with Mr H. Robson and Mrs M. Sunderland, when dismissing an appeal from an industrial chairman's decision to strike out an originating application under rule 12(2)(*f*) of the Schedule to the Industrial Tribunals (Rules of Procedure) Regulations (SI 1980 No 884).

His Lordship said that industrial tribunals ought to be swift and they usually were. If applicants or their advisers thought that the normal approach to litigation which pertained elsewhere could be applied to industrial tribunals they should be disabused of the idea.

Correction

In *R v Chief Rent Officer for Kensington and Chelsea London Borough Council* (*The Times*, February 7) counsel for the rent officer was Mr Duncan Ouseley, not Mr Guy Sankey.

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Police to recruit ethnic minorities

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Police in troubled Handsworth, Birmingham, plan to recruit more officers from ethnic minorities by touring the area and knocking on doors.

West Midlands Police hopes that a spin-off of the £60,000 recruitment campaign will be the prevention of riots such as that which left two people dead last September.

Senior officers are concerned because only 95, or 1.5 per cent of the Force's 6,650 members, come from the ethnic minorities. Mr David Gerty, assistant chief constable, said the recruiting drive, backed by a leaflet campaign and advertising, would begin soon in a pilot area in Birmingham. He expected officers to go into Handsworth during the summer.

The plan for the campaign has been drawn up by Chief Inspector Keith Newell after studying police recruitment in New York. An officer from there will travel to Birmingham to advise West Midlands Police when the campaign starts.

The present West Midlands percentage of 1.5 was not enough, Mr Gerty said. Ten per cent or more was the aim. Meanwhile, a report by West Midlands County Council said yesterday that Handsworth faces the possibility of more riots.

The £10,000 report, which was compiled by five black people, led by Mr Herman Ouseley, deputy chief executive of Lambeth council, says that deep-rooted racism was the real cause of last September's multi-million pound riot.

Black people in Britain feel they are living under a form of apartheid, the report says. Birmingham appears to be the "capital of race discrimination in Britain", with prejudice in housing, social services, education and employment.

Official publication of the report, due today, has been postponed, but details were leaked

Mr Geoffrey Dear, West Midlands Chief Constable, says in another report, however, that the riots erupted because drugs barons in Handsworth had been angered by new policing policies.

Cartoons controversy

Scholars at loggerheads over Rubens

By Tim Jones

The 174 members of the Court of Governors of the National Museum of Wales will turn up today for a special meeting hoping to learn that four huge cartoons are the work of Rubens. They are likely to be disappointed.

It is the latest turn in a controversy which has tainted the reputation of the museum since the cartoons were bought for £1.25 million in mysterious circumstances seven years ago. They were intended to enhance a collection which had been said to be "seriously inferior" to those in other cities.

The three art experts appointed to investigate the background of the cartoons, collectively known as "The History of Aeneas", are understood to differ over the vital issue—were they, or were they not, painted by Rubens?

Leading Rubens scholars have already disagreed publicly over the authenticity of the cartoons and earlier this month Dr Peter Cannon-Brookes, the museum's keeper of art, was suspended on full pay while an investigation is held into the running of his department.

The museum, which mortgaged two years of its purchasing power to buy the cartoons, refuses to say who last owned them. Vast paintings on paper, used by weavers as a pattern for tapestries, they were bought from the Heim Gallery in London, which guaranteed that good title to the pictures was passing and that no export licence controls had been contravened.

As part of the deal, the museum gave an undertaking to the gallery that it would not disclose for 10 years the name of the owners, said to be of distinction in the Austro-Hungarian empire.

That secrecy has fuelled widely contrasting claims, ranging from the proud boast that the cartoons are among the greatest art discoveries of the post-war period to the contemptuous dismissal of them by one museum governor as "the most costly pieces of dirty old paper in history".

Dr Cannon-Brookes, aged 46, has been staunch in his defence of the 9ft by 4ft cartoons.

He has recently been in Italy, consolidating his research into their authenticity and hopes soon to publish a booklet which he believes will fully vindicate him.

However, if, as expected, he is present at today's meeting, he must be prepared to defend his judgement against at least two of the "Three Wise Men", who have spent months on their own research.

Sir Oliver Millar, Keeper of the Queen's Paintings, and Dr Christopher Brown, his deputy keeper and curator of Dutch and Flemish paintings at the National Gallery, are said to have come out against the Rubens attribution, while Dr John Rowlands, keeper of prints and drawings at the British Museum, is thought to believe the cartoons are indeed by the hand of the master.

The majority evidence is unlikely to dent the conviction of Dr Cannon-Brookes, who is known to have traced the cartoons to within 10 years of Rubens's death in 1640.

He has suggested that the issue had been fomented by the anti-apartheid lobby, which is angry about his two touring exhibitions of South Africa.







Dr Cannon-Brookes (top) is at the centre of the controversy. Sir Oliver Millar (above) is understood to reject the attribution of the paintings to Rubens. Right: One of the disputed cartoons which have set scholars at odds.

The *Burlington Magazine* carried the differing views of two leading Rubens scholars about the cartoons in its issue of March 1983.

Dr Julius Held, the American Rubens scholar, said in the magazine that he believed they were painted by a seventeenth century follower of the master, possibly Thomas Willeboirts Bosschaert.

But Professor Michael Jaffé, director of the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, wrote: "They are their own documents, the brilliance of their execution is self evident, and nothing can be seen in them which is not in Rubens's own hand."

Professor Jaffé, who advised the museum on the purchase, has since described the decision to suspend Dr Cannon-Brookes as a witchhunt. "It is the most appalling situation in a museum that I think anyone has heard of."

'Threat to the arts' outcry over Bill

By David Hewson
Arts Correspondent

Film and television industry leaders yesterday condemned the private member's Bill to amend the Obscene Publications Act as a threat to the nation's artistic life.

Mr Michael Grade, controller of BBC1, said if Mr Winston Churchill's Bill became law, television series such as the *Forsyte Saga*, the *Jewel in the Crown*, *Monty Python* and the television *King Lear*, could not be shown.

Mr David Attenborough, the broadcaster, claimed the proposals would black out all news coverage of violence in South Africa. The Bill planned to outlaw a "laundry list" of acts which it was now possible to see on the television screen. "I have to tell Mr Churchill that the preying mantis does four of these things at the same time".

The proposed changes would extend the Act to television, introduce the list of banned practices, and place the onus on producers to prove artistic merit.

Mr John Mortimer, the barrister and writer who created *Rumpole of the Bailey*, said it was a "silly Bill." A play showing masturbation could lead to a three-year jail sentence for its producer, he said.

Mr Michael Winner, film producer and director, forecast the changes would affect art galleries, museums, opera, ballet and theatre.

Mr Grade said the Bill was the result of an attempt by Mrs Mary Whitehouse to impose her "narrow Victorian vision on society".

Multiple occupants 'at risk in squalor'

By Christopher Warman
Property Correspondent

About 1.25 million people in England and Wales are living in squalor and danger in multiple occupied houses, a London conference organized by the Institution of Environmental Health Officers was told yesterday.

Mr Roy Emerson, president, said local authority figures showed that 82 per cent of the estimated 300,000 such houses are unsatisfactory.

According to the Fire Research Station, the risk of fire is 10 times greater than in other types of housing. "Furthermore, a large number of the houses are literally falling apart, have inadequate heating, lack proper cooking and washing facilities, and are badly managed by landlords who are happy to collect rents but less than enthusiastic about meeting their responsibilities to their tenants", he said.

Most tenants are vulnerable members of society, including ethnic minority groups, low-income families, the elderly and the young and single.

Department of the Environment statistics show there are an estimated 334,000 shared houses in England and Wales, of which 145,000 are in Greater London. A total of 35 councils had more than 2,500 shared houses, of which 18 were in London. Kensington and Chelsea led with 16,700, and there are 13,800 in Lewisham, 10,200 in Haringey, and 10,000 in Leeds.

The DoE said that 176,000 houses, or 53 per cent, were unsatisfactory.

Learning a democratic approach to politics

By George Hill

A book designed to "export parliament to schools" was launched yesterday with the backing of Mr Gerry Neale, Conservative MP for Cornwall North.

Designed for students taking courses such as civic education, or visiting Parliament, it gives a non-party account of the workings of the parliamentary system, and encourages participation in class discussion, mock elections and a mock Parliament.

Finding Out What Happens When I Vote is the latest in a series of colourfully designed booklets for schools about social issues such as smoking, drugs and nuclear energy.

"We have worked through the booklet with a panel of teachers to make sure it is totally non-political and only deals with the mechanics of parliament", Mr Neale said.

£800,000 grant challenged

Solihull and Walsall district councils launched an attempt in the High Court in London yesterday to stop the doomed West Midlands Council spending £800,000 earmarked for Birmingham international airport on grants to voluntary bodies.

The two councils, which take over responsibility from West Midlands Council when it is abolished next month, are asking Mr Justice McPherson to rule that the decision to spend the money was unlawful.

Mr David Keene, QC, for the councils, told the judge that because of government rate support grant penalties for overspending, the total cost to ratepayers could be £4 million.

He said that although the West Midlands Council had agreed to consult their successors over how the money should be spent, the two councils which will take over the running of the airport had a legitimate expectation to have been consulted over the transfer in the first place.

The failure to do that was "unreasonable" and a breach of West Midlands' duty to ratepayers, Mr Keene said.

Mr Konrad Schiemann, QC, for West Midlands County Council, denied that the authority had acted unlawfully. He said consultation would take place, although West Midlands was under no legal duty to do so.

The two councils' action came after the hearing of a similar application against the Greater Manchester Council. Judgement was reserved.

Anthrax fears over pack of foxhounds

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

A pack of foxhounds in north Devon is being checked for anthrax after being fed an infected pony carcass.

The pony was one of two that died of the disease, possibly catching spores from ground where infected cattle were buried more than 30 years ago.

The pony carcass was fed to hounds at Dulverton West kennels before veterinary surgeons realized it died of anthrax. The pack has been treated with antibiotics, but is still being closely watched.

Ministry of Agriculture officials are also investigating another anthrax outbreak near Ilfracombe, eight miles away.

Anthrax spores can remain active almost indefinitely unless deliberately destroyed. The normal practice is to burn infected carcasses. The field where the ponies were kept is to be disinfected.

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Russia puts huge space station into orbit as congress curtain-raiser

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The contrast in the space programmes of the superpowers has been highlighted by the Soviet launch of a giant, new-generation space station as a spectacular curtain-raiser to next week's Communist Party congress.

The successful launch of the station, complete with six docking positions, came just over three weeks after the American shuttle disaster.

Western experts here claimed that the new craft underlined the steady progress in the Soviet manned space programme, in contrast to the more dramatic achievements and failures of the Americans.

As part of the Kremlin's campaign to depict the Soviet Union as the leader in the peaceful exploration of space, the station is called "Mir", the Russian word for peace.

According to Mr Alexei Leonov, the deputy head of the Soviet cosmonaut training centre, the launch represented the start of the transition from research to "large-scale production activities" in space.

Although at present unmanned, Mir is intended as a base for a permanently manned complex orbiting the Earth.

Describing the facilities on board the new space laboratory, Mr Leonov said that conditions for the cosmonauts — now undergoing a special training programme — would include separate cabins, and even individual desks and armchairs.

He added that it would only be possible to determine how long the station could remain in orbit after the completion of its first flight.

The launch caused wide interest among Western observers here. Apart from the technological aspects, the timing and manner of the launch was seen as a public relations triumph for the Kremlin very much in the mould of the new image being presented by Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the party leader.

The Soviet Union, which put the first man in space in 1961, has long declared its aim of creating a permanently manned station in space.

Salyut 7, the Soviet Union's other space station, has been in orbit since 1982, but Mr Leonov explained yesterday that it was too small for the plans now being implemented by Soviet experts.

The last Soviet mission ended prematurely in November last year, when cosmonaut Vladimir Vasyutin was struck down by a mystery illness and had to be brought back to Earth.

Study of subsequent published accounts of the aborted mission convinced diplomats that the cosmonaut had suffered what amounted to a nervous crack-up in space.

● PARIS: Western Europe resumes its interrupted challenge to the United States for the lucrative satellite market tomorrow, with the 16th launch of an Ariane rocket from Kourou in French Guiana (AFP reports).

Like Nasa, the European Space Agency has had its own problems. Tomorrow's Ariane launch will be the first since a failed launch on September 13.

Then, scientists had to blow up the rocket after nine minutes 52 seconds, because it strayed from its course.

But European hopes are high again. Tomorrow Ariane will carry an ambitious first French Earth-observation satellite developed with Swedish and Belgian participation, and a Swedish scientific satellite to study the magnetic sphere and the aurora borealis.

Spectrum, page 10



A star in Paris: Bette Davis, aged 77, the award-winning American film actress, at a Paris press conference yesterday to mark a season of her films which begins there tomorrow.

Middle East peace setback

Moderate leaders reject Husain call to abandon PLO

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

Moderate West Bank leaders refused yesterday to join King Husain of Jordan in abandoning the Palestine Liberation Organization as a partner in the search for Middle East peace.

He put an end to a year-long search for a joint negotiating position with the PLO by saying he could no longer cooperate politically with it "until their word is their bond".

He saved this announcement for the end of a 200-minute televised speech, which finished just in time for every east Jerusalem newspaper to write editorials denouncing his decision.

In his speech the King called on "Palestinians in the occupied territories and the diaspora, as well as Arab capitals and organizations" to take over the job of finding a solution from the PLO.

He tried to speak directly to the people of the occupied territories, praising their courage in staying on their land and urging them to "stand tall". He was clearly appealing to them to come forward and help him to seek peace without the PLO.

Mr Hanna Simiora, the editor of *Al-Fajr*, is a Palestinian who is prepared to negotiate and who was accepted by the US as a potential delegate to a peace conference because of his public stand against terrorism.

But yesterday he was sure that no one would accept the King's offer, because, he said, only the PLO was prepared to fight for the right of Palestinians to have their own nation.

Most significantly, his words were echoed by Mr Zafir el-Masri. He was appointed mayor of the city of Nablus at the end of last year as part of an experiment by Mr Shimon Peres, the Israeli Prime Minister, on handing over power at local level to responsible Arab leaders as part of a gradual process of devolution.

He was chosen because he had no PLO background, and has strong connections with Jordan, where his nephew is Foreign Minister. But yesterday he refused to consider doing anything without PLO backing. They were the only ones who looked after Palestinian rights, he said.

The only well-known Palestinian publicly prepared to consider what the King has said was Mr Elias Freij, Mayor of Bethlehem. Palestinians would now have to face up to reality, he said.

The solution would have to be thrashed out between the Americans, the Israelis and the people of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Mr Freij, however, is considered an Uncle Tom figure, although Israel regards him as one of the few Arabs prepared to defy PLO terror threats and to seek out for moderate policies.

Leading Israeli politicians were pleased but not over-optimistic about the King's statement. Mr Peres said he was not surprised because the main stumbling block to peace had always been the PLO. Now a new road would have to be found.

Mr Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli Defence Minister, was more enthusiastic. He said that a golden opportunity had now appeared. The Palestinians had an historic chance to take their destiny in their own hands.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said King Husain's speech merely marked the end of a wasted year in which nothing was done because of a futile attempt to enrol the PLO.

The spokesman said the PLO were like zombies and it was important to try to eliminate their influence in the occupied territories if there were to be any chance of peace.

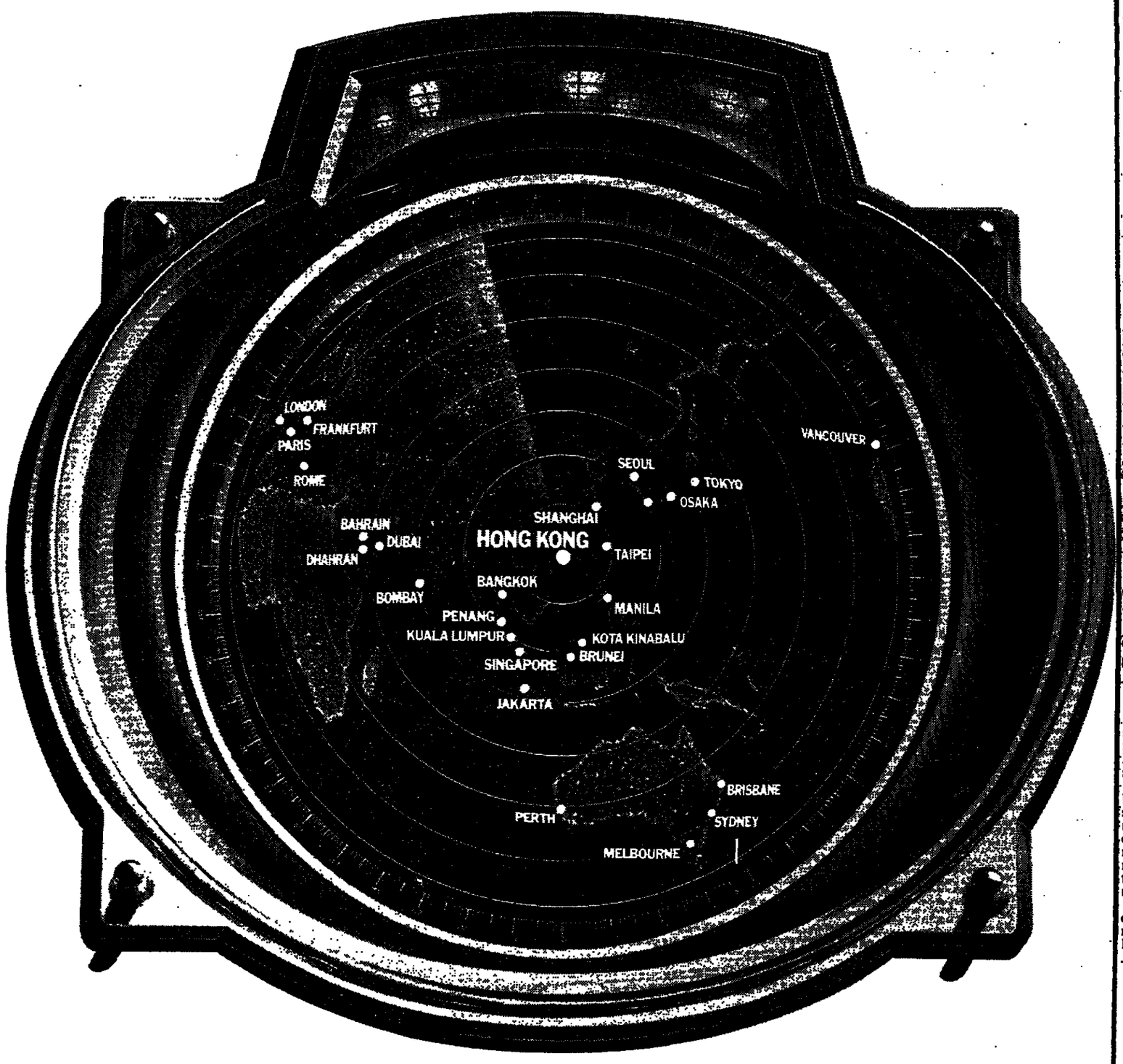
The Foreign Ministry position remains that the only realistic way ahead is for direct negotiations with Jordan without any PLO involvement of any kind.

The King, however, is not seen as having slammed the door in the face of the PLO. "The King always keeps many doors open," the spokesman said.

Israel is now going through the speech in detail, checking what it sees as many factual errors in the King's analysis.

The US is likely to be asked to clarify its actions as described by the King, because they are at variance with Israel's own understanding of the facts.

This potential dispute between Israel and the US may make it more difficult for the two countries to trust each other as fully as in the past.



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Israel extends hunt for kidnapped soldiers

From Our Own Correspondent, Jerusalem

Another Israeli was killed in south Lebanon yesterday after troops searching for two kidnapped soldiers ran into resistance from local militia.

A fierce battle, using tanks and artillery, pinned down men of the Finnish battalion serving with Unifil (UN Interim Force In Lebanon) and skirmishes raged along the 10-mile front and deep into Lebanese territory where the search continued.

Major-General Ori Orr, of Israel's Northern Command, said there was no proof the missing men had been executed despite claims by an anonymous caller to a Beirut newspaper saying he was from the Islamic Resistance Movement.

General Orr said he was confident the kidnappers had not been able to take their hostages out of the area and the search would continue — especially in response to demands by Islamic groups.

There have been no arrests since Monday night when two men, thought to have been some of the kidnappers, were captured. But large caches of arms and ammunition have been discovered, convincing the Israelis to continue searching.

The search is taking on political significance and Amal Shia militia leaders, who control the area north of the buffer zone, fear the Israelis may extend the zone as they search further into Amal territory.

UN headquarters at Naqqoura have heard of villagers being ill-treated by Israeli army units — reminiscent of the iron fist policy that caused Israel's unpopularity before its withdrawal last year.

Un-Texan welcome for Prince

From Trevor Fishlock
Austin, Texas

One old Texan was determined to be unimpressed by the Prince of Wales. "Why," he said, gazing into the television camera which was promising him his moment of fame if only he would dare to be outrageous, "he is no better than I am. We both put our pants on the same way — one leg at a time".

Most of Texas, however, is impressed, and the Prince is drawing large crowds during his progress through the state. Countless women confess themselves weak at the knees.

Houston gave the Prince a worthy but rather dull day, quite out of keeping with the buccaneering character of that astonishing, swaggering, city. He visited a refinery and an old people's home.

The city laid on the inevitable dinner, and the Prince spent another evening with wealthy Texans.

The food was notably un-Texan — not a bowl of chilli nor a barbecued rib in sight. Strong frontiersmen who gnawed T-bones in their cribs found themselves addressing vegetable pâté and raspberry custard, and wondering if Texas was falling victim to creeping socialism, or in other ways going to the dogs.

Queen in Nepal, page 9

Ozal takes firm line on Cyprus

By Nicholas Ashford
Diplomatic Correspondent

Mr Turgut Ozal, the Turkish Prime Minister, said yesterday that Turkish troops would not be withdrawn from northern Cyprus until a solution to the Cyprus problem was reached that contained guarantees for the Turkish Cypriot minority in the north of the island.

Answering questions at a press conference at the end of his four-day official visit to Britain, Mr Ozal said he "really wanted" a solution to the Cyprus problem and expressed support for the UN settlement initiative.

Despite the lack of progress on the Cyprus issue, Mr Ozal seemed satisfied with his talks in London. It was clear he had achieved the main objective of his visit, which was to portray Turkey as a country successfully preparing itself for EEC membership.

He invited Mrs Thatcher and Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour Party leader, to Turkey.

Asked about the fate of four Britons serving long sentences in Turkish prisons for drugs-related offences, he indicated that no legal obstacle stood in the way of their transfer to Britain now that both countries had ratified the Council of Europe convention.

هكذا من الأصل

Tutu fails to meet Botha over unrest

From Michael Hornsby
Johannesburg

For the second time in seven months President Botha of South Africa yesterday turned down an opportunity to meet the Rt Rev Desmond Tutu, the black Anglican Bishop of Johannesburg, to discuss measures to reduce the unrest in black townships.

Bishop Tutu flew to Cape Town yesterday with other churchmen hoping to see Mr Botha to whom he had sent a message the previous day requesting a meeting. They were received at the Tuynhuis, the presidential office, but told that the President had a previous engagement which could not be broken at short notice.

Instead, President Botha instructed the Deputy Minister of Defence and Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, to talk on his behalf to Bishop Tutu's party. The group included Dr Allan Boesak, a Coloured, and Dr Beyers Naude, a white, who are leading anti-government ministers of the generally politically non-conformist Dutch Reformed Church.

The meeting lasted two hours. Neither side would comment on the discussions afterwards. The churchmen said they would hold a press conference later today at the Johannesburg headquarters of the South African Council of Churches.

Had the meeting with President Botha gone ahead, it would have been the President's first direct contact with radical opponents of the Government. Dr Naude was "banned" for seven years, and Dr Boesak faces trial on charges of subversion, and is on bail.

They and Bishop Tutu have called for international economic sanctions to be imposed on South Africa. On Wednesday, they disclosed that they had appealed, on behalf of the SACC, to foreign bankers to seize South African assets abroad rather than agree to re-schedule the country's debts.

Last July, as unrest swept black townships in the wake of the Government's declaration of a state of emergency, President Botha rejected a request from Bishop Tutu for a meeting, pleading a heavy schedule and saying he could not talk to persons who refused to "denounce violence and civil disobedience".

Bishop Tutu's latest request was prompted by the violence in Alexandra, the black suburb in north Johannesburg, where 23 people are now estimated to have died.

An elderly woman, said to have been set on fire after being accused of being a witch, died of her burns in hospital on Wednesday night. Most of the deaths were caused by police gunfire.

Life in the Alexandra shanty town, which is unusual in that it lies close to white residential areas, has returned to a semblance of normality, although schools remain shut and heavily-armed police are still patrolling its streets.

Incidents of continuing unrest are reported from many parts of the country.



Bishop Desmond Tutu talking with a policeman in Cape Town, before his unsuccessful attempt to see President Botha.

Parents in schools trek to Zimbabwe

From Jan Raath
Harare

Many anxious South African parents are asking Zimbabwe education authorities to allow their children to be taught in Zimbabwe's multi-racial schools.

The national news agency Ziana quoted Mr Dzingai Mutumbuka, the Minister of Education, as saying that his office was receiving "20 or more" applications daily from white, black, Coloured (mixed race) and Asian South Africans.

He said the parents had described South Africa's racially divisive school system as "revulsive and intolerable". He told of one case where a white woman "came and cried in my office, saying she did not want her children educated in that country".

However, South African exiles interviewed here said they understood most of the applications had come from mixed-race families in the Cape and Transvaal.

It is also reported that South African parents are extremely worried by continuing street violence. One father from the Cape Town Coloured township of Mitchell's Plain, trying to secure a place for his son in a local school here, said: "Several of my kid's friends were put in hospital by police bullets and sjambok. It's only a matter of time before he gets hurt and I don't want that."

Ministry sources said they had also received applications from South African exiles in Botswana fearful of South African commandos crossing the border.

Some children of South African families have been accepted into Zimbabwe schools but only after their families have been granted residency.

With a 200 per cent increase in enrolment in government schools since independence, the over-burdened Zimbabwean education system cannot absorb foreigners and so adheres to the policy that both its children and their parents prove residency before being accepted.

"Our resources are stretched to the absolute limit. We've got enough problems dealing with our own pupils, let alone foreigners," said the headmaster of a primary school which recently admitted three South Africans.

Amin claims his troops play key Uganda role

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

General Idi Amin, the former Ugandan dictator now living in exile in Saudi Arabia, claims he is concerned about President Yoweri Museveni controlling the southern part of Uganda while the former Army holds the north.

Speaking from Jiddah, General Amin said: "These people in the north are not sleeping — if Museveni continues to advance towards the north, General Basilio Okello will move his troops to Kampala."

General Amin, who ruled Uganda from 1971 to 1979 before being deposed by a combined force of Tanzanian troops and Ugandan guerrillas, said the thousands of his former troops who fled with him to Sudan and Zaire, but then returned after the overthrow of President Milton Obote last July, were still a cohesive force in northern Uganda and were working with General Okello.

He says that General Okello has "fighting patrols" near Kampala. "The more time we get, the more the training for an offensive."

Officials in Kampala denied his claim that there had been an attempted coup against President Museveni in Kampala in the past few days.

They also denied that northerners living in southern Uganda had been harassed and killed and "their houses have been burnt with them inside".

General Amin said two African countries, which he would not name, were supporting President Museveni's troops. "I advise those countries to leave Uganda to settle its own problems peacefully. I am appealing to Ugandans not to kill themselves.



General Amin: the people are not sleeping.

"I love all the tribes of Uganda. My Army consisted of all tribes," said the general.

The former dictator says he maintains close contact with Uganda, even though he is being pressed by Saudi Arabian authorities not to involve himself in Ugandan politics.

Where a man can earn most and live best

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

A skilled workman in Los Angeles, earning £2,436 a month, leads his counterparts worldwide in purchasing power, according to a 49-city survey issued here.

Second on the list is his equivalent in Geneva (£1,564). These wages are for men with 10 years' experience employed by large companies.

Their purchasing power is calculated on a basket of 28 items, including transport.

The survey by the Union Bank of Switzerland puts annual salaries of departmental heads in industry at between £36,000 and £59,000 in the US, compared with £37,000 in Geneva and £37,745 in Zurich.

Teachers with 10 years' experience come out best in New York (£27,636), followed by Geneva (£27,054). This compares with £1,127 for their counterparts in Manila and £800 for those in Bombay.

Income tax and social security deductions average 20 per cent of annual revenue among 12 professions in the 49 cities.

Los Angeles has the world's most expensive taxis (£6.40 for three miles) followed by Zurich (£6.18) and Geneva (£5.63). The average comparative charge is £3.42 in West Europe and £5.05 in North America.

Unemployment in Switzerland was 1 per cent (31,644) at the end of January, compared with 1.3 per cent a year ago. Women make up almost 40 per cent of the total.

The survey graphically underlines that a night in a first-class hotel is increasingly affordable only by the affluent.

Chad raid photos released

Paris (Reuter) — The French Defence Ministry released photographs and details yesterday of its air raid against a rebel airfield in northern Chad last Sunday, and said the runway appeared to be still out of action.

One picture taken by an attacking French aircraft showed its dispersal bombs blasting the 12,500ft landing strip at Ouaddi Doum. Another showed military installations around the airfield, including a Soviet-built Libyan armoured vehicle.

Air Force General Bernard Litre told defence correspondents that the base was ringed by a military radar network and 34 anti-aircraft positions that included two batteries of Sam 6 missiles.

Commonwealth group sees businessmen

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg

Three members of the Commonwealth "Eminent Persons Group" visiting South Africa have met leading members of the white business community here after earlier talks in Cape Town with government ministers and opposition MPs.

The former Australian Prime Minister, Mr Malcolm Fraser, the former Nigerian head of state, General Olusegun Obasanjo, and the president of the World Council of Churches, Dame Nita Barrow, have also met leading extra-parliamentary opponents of the Government.

On Wednesday they saw Mrs Winnie Mandela, the wife of Mr Nelson Mandela, the jailed leader of the outlawed African National Congress. Earlier in the week, in Cape Town, they met Dr Allan Boesak, the Dutch Reformed Church clergyman who is a leading light of the United Democratic Front.

On Wednesday evening the Commonwealth group hosted a dinner in Johannesburg for local businessmen. Among the guests was Mr Tony Bloom, head of the Premier Group, who was among the businessmen and opposition MPs who talked with the ANC last year in Lusaka.

Ministers seen by the group included Mr R.F. "Pik" Botha, the Foreign Minister, General Magnus Malan, the Minister of Defence, and Mr Chris Heunis, the Minister of Constitutional Planning and Development.

Their visit has been conducted in almost total secrecy.

44 die in Sri Lanka blast and clashes

Colombo (AP) — At least 44 people have been killed in 24 hours in Sri Lanka's Northern and Eastern provinces, government officials said.

A military spokesman said security forces carried out an anti-guerrilla offensive in the predominantly Tamil Jaffna district on Wednesday, hours after 36 civilians and four soldiers were killed in a landmine blast.

Troops assisted by light aircraft and helicopters attacked two guerrilla hideouts, killing four and injuring seven.

"We have repeatedly warned civilians to stay away from terrorist hideouts. Our targets were isolated and there was no reason for innocent people to live in those areas", the spokesman said.

Poles reprieve teacher ordered out

Wroclaw, Poland (Reuter) — An American teacher due to be deported from Poland yesterday won a last-minute reprieve from the Communist authorities to spend at least another month here with her Polish husband.

Donna Sue Kersey, from Kentucky, who has lived in Poland since 1981 and has a one-year-old daughter, had her application for a residence permit and visa extension rejected without explanation last November. But she stayed illegally. Police detained her for 24 hours earlier this month and ordered her to leave Poland. But while she was packing yesterday, a policeman called at her flat and summoned her to the passport office. She was given a visa until March 18.

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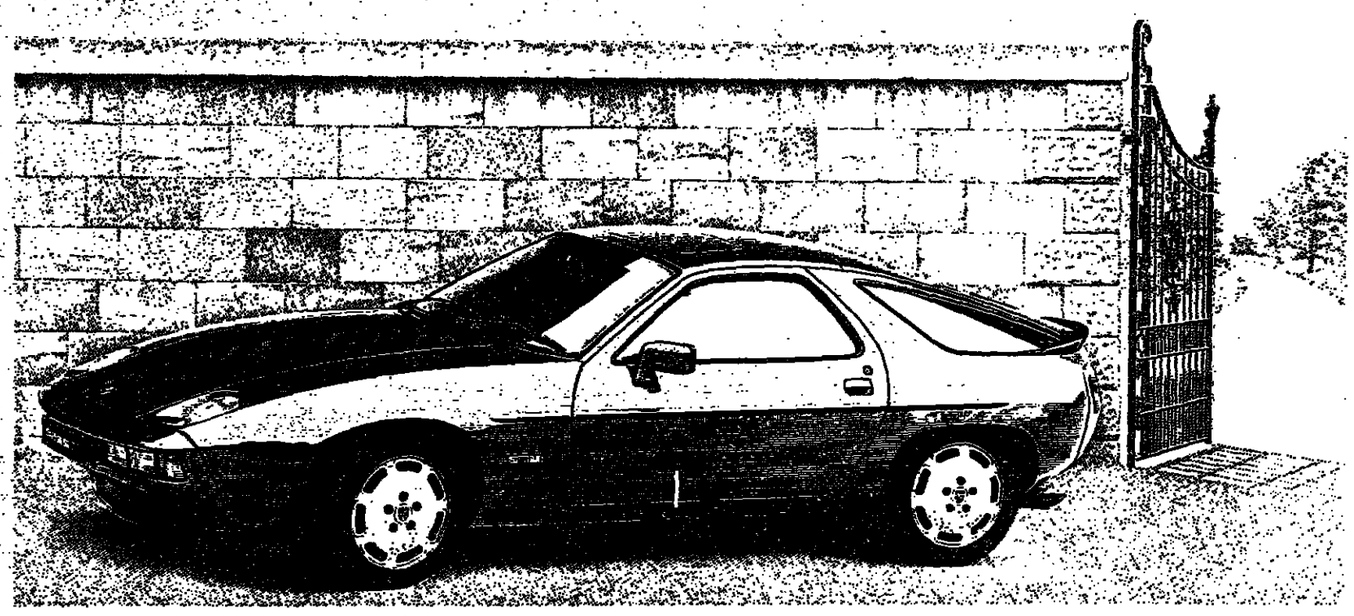
There's a 14-function safety warning system that monitors the car while you watch the road.

While to prevent those annoyingly frequent adjustments to heating and ventilation, the 928's climate control maintains your pre-set temperature automatically.

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White House dilemma after Congress vote on Philippines

From Michael Binyon, Washington

As an angry Congress overwhelmingly passed a resolution condemning the Philippine election as a "massive fraud", the Reagan Administration has decided to deliver a telling snub to President Marcos by sending only a low-level diplomat to his inauguration.

Normally a senior official, such as Vice-President George Bush, would represent President Reagan at the inauguration of a close US ally. But after his own condemnation of the election, Mr Reagan is also unlikely to send any message of congratulation to the Philippine leader.

The Senate's non-binding resolution, passed by 85–9 votes on Wednesday, called on the President personally to convey its concern to Mr Marcos. It said the elections "were marked by such widespread fraud that they cannot be considered a fair reflection of the will of the people."

Conservative Republicans, such as Senator Robert Dole, the majority leader, have urged caution, saying Congress needed more "concrete evidence" of fraud before cutting off aid.

His caution reflects the dilemma of the Administration. Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, also urged a continuation of aid. He told a Senate budget committee: "We have on our hands a very delicate and difficult situation, and we don't want to jump at it with precipitous action." He said Mr Philip Habib, the US special envoy, was "getting around very carefully" in Manila, consulting all sides.

But the Administration is finding it ever harder to counsel moderation with a rising tide of emotion in Congress and the country. Its argument that it must maintain good relations with Manila because of the US bases has provoked hostile reaction among Democrats.

"If we don't pull the plug on President Marcos, in due course the Philippine people will pull the plug on the United States and our bases," said Senator Jim Sasser, a Tennessee Democrat who has introduced legislation to cut off all aid.

Just as over South African sanctions, President Reagan, reluctant to condemn anyone preaching anti-communism, is being forced to take a tougher stance to maintain the policy initiative.

The White House has seen the present crisis coming for a long time. But while determined not to be seen undermining a long-standing US ally, in the way President Carter was accused of undermining the Shah of Iran, the Administration realizes that Mr Marcos must go, and go soon, if street riots and chaos are to be averted.

However, the Administration does not know at the moment how it can help a peaceful transition, given the bitterness of all sides. The Habib mission is seen here as playing for time, in the hope that Mr Marcos will see the strength of feeling ranged against him.

One official said the Administration was "walking a tightrope by trying to be a constructive — and not destructive — influence". It wanted to avoid any step that would "radicalize Marcos or Aquino".

Mr Larry Speakes, the White House spokesman, has therefore described any steps to cut off aid as "premature". Mr Shultz said on Wednesday that US military aid remains the best and most effective tool to promote the reform and development of a country's armed forces.

This year the US is to give Manila military aid totalling $54.7 million (£37.7 million) and economic aid of $181.2 million.

Nailing colours to the Manila mast





A contrast in attitudes of East and West towards the post-election crisis in the Philippines: Mrs Aquino (above) greets the Spanish Ambassador, Señor Pedro Ortiz Armengol, while the British Ambassador, Mr Robin McLaren (second right) looks on; and (below) the Soviet Ambassador, Mr Vadim Shabalin (left), presents his credentials to President Marcos.

EEC envoys snub Marcos with call on Aquino

From David Watts, Manila

Ambassadors of the countries of the European Community called on Mrs Corazon Aquino, the opposition leader, yesterday in what appeared to be an unprecedented diplomatic gesture.

Mr Robin McLaren of Britain was joined by the ambassadors of Ireland, Spain, the Netherlands, France, Belgium and Italy, while West Germany and Denmark were represented by chargé d'affaires.

The envoys, who went to Mrs Aquino's offices at her invitation, were later joined by the ambassadors of Switzerland, Norway, Austria, Finland and Sweden in the strongest repudiation so far of President Marcos's claim to have won the presidential elections.

The Japanese Ambassador followed his European colleagues later with a visit at his own request. Though Japan has not sent any congratulatory message to Mr Marcos, the embassy has also requested an audience with him.

The Dutch Ambassador, Mr Weiger Hellema, speaking as the present chairman of the EEC, said it was normal to call on the head of the legal opposition. But one of his colleagues said later that it was unprecedented in his experience for the EEC to make such a call collectively.

"It is an extraordinary gesture," he said. "But these are extraordinary times in the Philippines."

Mrs Aquino impressed her visitors with her reasonable attitude. She did not ask for recognition as the winner of the election but for support for democracy.

An agreed statement put out by the two sides said Mrs Aquino reiterated her determination "to vindicate the people's verdict and assume the presidency at the earliest possible time".

The visit was interpreted here as a strong snub for the Marcos Government. When EEC diplomats visited the Foreign Ministry later the first question put to them by the Government concerned their discussions with Mrs Aquino.

As a follow-up to their gesture yesterday the EEC governments have been considering a boycott or low-level representation at President Marcos's inauguration ceremony scheduled for next Tuesday.

Faced with a marked lack of enthusiasm from the outside world, the Philippines Government is now talking of a small ceremony, perhaps at the Malacanang Presidential Palace, with the official explanation that difficult economic circumstances have forced a more modest celebration on the Government.

In that event it would probably be a relatively private affair thus relieving governments of a ticklish diplomatic decision.

The opposition is planning a national day of protest the next day which appears to be gathering steam with agreement by trades union organizations to take part.

A mass protest march of students to the Makati business district is planned today.

● GLENDALE, California: An executive of the *Philippine News*, a newspaper opposed to the Marcos Government, was shot dead at his home north of Los Angeles after receiving a threatening note (AP reports).

Commentary



Geoffrey Smith

Bonn

How assured is West Germany's position as a lynchpin of the Western Alliance? Without its full and active participation there would be a vacuum in the heart of Europe and a devastating gap in the Alliance structure.

I have been paying particular attention to this question during my talks in West Germany this week. But I am convinced that it does not really arise so long as the present Government remains in power.

Although one should never forget that it is a coalition, with differences of emphasis between the Christian Democrats and the Free Democrats, its commitment to the Alliance is not in doubt. There is particular pride that the Government kept its nerve over the Euro-missiles when so many people were saying that it would be impossible to deploy them against such strident opposition.

At the same time, this is a government eager for dialogue with the Soviet Union. It was one of the first to press for a summit meeting between President Reagan and Mr Gorbachov.

Now, after the atmospheric success at Geneva in November, there is concern that the next meeting in Washington in the summer should produce some specific progress. This might take the form of an agreement on chemical weapons, or conceivably — so I have been told — on conventional forces in the MBFR negotiations in Vienna.

But attention is particularly directed to American suggestions for responding to Mr Gorbachov's proposals on intermediate range missiles which Mr Paul Nitze, President Reagan's special adviser on arms control, has been taking around European capitals.

I detect some scepticism in Bonn as to whether the idea of removing all such missiles from Europe is immediately practical. It seems to be regarded as a somewhat distant ideal. I also sensed a preference, if medium range missiles are to be eliminated, for treating them all alike wherever they are sited — rather than allowing the Soviet Union to keep half its SS20s in Asia as an interim arrangement.

Prospect of second phase of detente

What I have not found in governing circles in Bonn, however, is any pressure for British and French concessions on their independent nuclear deterrents.

The critical questions about Germany's role in the Atlantic Alliance would arise, though, only if there were a change of government in Bonn. In my conversation with Herr Johannes Rau, the Social Democratic challenger for the Chancellery, I formed two distinct impressions on this point — that he does attach importance to the Alliance, but that he wants to keep the greatest possible freedom of manoeuvre on specific policies.

An SPD Government, he told me, would offer the prospect of a second phase of detente. But it would remain in Nato. It would want to reduce the level of armaments, but only by negotiations.

But what if agreement could not be reached with the Soviet Union on Euro-missiles? At this point Herr Rau was reluctant to be drawn. He would want to remove the missiles from West Germany only as agreed Nato policy, but he did not want to make such a committment now for fear of weakening his hand within the Alliance.

He was somewhat delphic as to whether he would favour concessions on the British and French deterrents for the sake of a missile agreement. These forces were first of all questioned for the British and French themselves, he maintained. But then he added that a few years ago the West as a whole had no more nuclear weapons than the British and French have together now.

The overall conclusion I drew was that an SPD Government under Herr Rau might give its allies some anxiety, but would not be too disturbing. He would have to watch his left-wing, but would take care not to undermine the Alliance.

A coalition between the SPD and the Greens, however, would be another matter. The Greens would be bound to exert an influence on policy that would be damaging to Nato, and Herr Rau would presumably decline to lead such a government. Without the assurance of his moderating influence there would be cause for concern.

Party sons executed for rape

Peking (AP) — Two Chinese journalists, reportedly the sons of senior Communist Party figures, have been executed for rape.

The Xinhua news agency said three men were executed and three others jailed for between three and 20 years for raping or molesting 48 women between 1981 and 1984.

It said the case was the biggest reported since the Communist Party last month launched its crackdown on corruption by those in privileged social positions.

Chinese television yesterday screened film of the men being convicted and then being driven off to the Shanghai execution ground where "their execution had been warmly welcomed by residents".

The pro-Peking Hong Kong newspapers *Wen Wei Po* and *Ta Kung Pao* said Chen Xiaomeng, who was executed, and Chen Binglang, who was jailed, were the sons of Mr Chen Qiwu, former head of the Communist Party propaganda department in Shanghai.

Another of those executed was Hu Xiaoyang, son of Hu Ljiao, the chairman of the Shanghai municipal People's Congress.

Xinhua said that Chen Xiaomeng was a reporter for *Minzhu Yu Fazhi* (Democracy and the Legal System), a prominent law-and-order magazine.

His brother, a worker in a civil aviation factory, was sentenced to 20 years in jail.

Hu Xiaoyang, the other reporter executed, worked for an architectural journal.

The third man executed was Ge Zhiwen, a worker in a Shanghai perfume factory.

According to unofficial reports, the grandson of the late Marshal Zhu De was executed in 1982 for rape but the case was not publicly reported.

Soviet envoy 'arrested for smuggling'

Tokyo (AP) — The Soviet Union's Ambassador to Japan has reportedly been arrested for trying to smuggle electronic products into Moscow.

Quoting the West German newspaper *Bild Am Sonntag*, Kyodo News Service and the daily *Mainichi Shimbun* said Mr Pyotr Abrasimov, aged 73, was arrested at Moscow airport after he was found with 29 electronic products, including an electronic calculator and a videotape recorder.

One Soviet Embassy official denied the report, saying: "I believe it is a lie". Another confirmed that Mr Abrasimov had returned to Moscow but said she had not heard of his arrest.

Kyodo, quoting Japanese Government sources, said Mr Abrasimov was very close to the late Soviet leader, Leonid Brezhnev, but was not on the same good terms with Mr Mikhail Gorbachov.

The sources would not confirm the reports of his arrest but speculated that he may soon lose his position.

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Royal tour of Nepal

The Queen meets her loyal, brave and most ferocious soldiers

From Michael Hamlyn, Kathmandu

"They are incredibly good soldiers," Brigadier Miles Hunt-Davis, the senior British officer in Nepal, said. "They are tough, loyal, and when it gets going they are extremely ferocious."

On the last full day of her tour of the Himalayan kingdom, the Queen met some of the most ferocious of the soldiers who had served in the British Gurkha regiments. She met five holders of the Victoria Cross, 23 Military Cross holders, 20 winners of the Military Medal and holders of 74 other decorations.

Just how ferocious they could be is testified to in the citations when they won their decorations. For example, one day in Burma in March, 1945, Rifleman Bhanbhakta Gurung stood up while under heavy fire and dropped a sniper in a tree. Then, his blood up, he charged a foxhole, killing its two occupants with grenades. He charged on, alone, to the next foxhole and dispatched the Japanese soldier in it.

By this time properly worked up, he charged a bunker whence a machine gun was directing a withering fire on his comrades. He was out of explosive grenades by now, but lobbed a couple of smoke grenades through the slit, and as two Japanese soldiers came out, killed them with his *kukri*, the curved, broad-bladed knife that every Gurkha soldier carries. Finally he crawled inside the bunker and killed the remaining Japanese, who was still firing the gun.

Yesterday Bhanbhakta Gurung, who was eventually promoted to corporal, stood on the lawn of the British defence attache's bungalow in Kathmandu and said he had enjoyed his time in the Army. After the war, though, he went back to his village and now, aged 64, still makes his living farming.

Dalbahadur Rai, who won the MC in the Malayan emergency, was in no doubt about what it was he missed about the Army. "The comradeship and the combats," he said, his eyes twinkling. He is now 70, and lives in a tiny village close to the foot of Everest.

But when he received his invitation to meet the Queen, he set out to walk to the nearest place he could catch a bus to the Gurkha depot. It took him 10 days. "I received the Queen's invitation, and I came," he said.

The Queen, in a mango-coloured dress and a straw boater, was accompanied by Brigadier Hunt-Davis as she met the bravest of the brave. The brigadier is responsible for recruitment.

The Gurkha tradition in the British Army began when the British failed to defeat the Nepalese in 1816. On the theory that if you can't beat them, have them join you, they were invited to sign up with the former enemy, and since then they have distinguished themselves.

● **Plea to Howe:** Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, will be pressed on his return from Nepal to intercede on behalf of the kingdom's Christian minority, which has appealed for help against religious persecution (Our Parliamentary Staff writes).

He will be presented with a dossier collected by two British MPs which cites 36 examples of torture, brutality or bureaucratic harassment of the 35,000-strong Christian community.



Plainclothes policemen grappling with a member of South Korea's main opposition party near its headquarters in Seoul before leading him away to a waiting police car.

Seoul rio police ba oppositio meeting

Seoul (AP) — Riot p withdrew yesterday from headquarters of the main position party after thwar its plans to hold a meeting campaign to change the co tution.

But opposition sources at least 270 New Korea D cratic Party leaders and m bers, including 80 deputi the National Assembly, still under house arres surveillance.

The country's two known dissident leaders, Kim Dae Jung and Mr Young Sam, were alr under house arrest yesterday's police action gan. NKDP officials had mated the police force se off their headquarters 1,000. Police said they trying "to prevent a sched illegal assembly".

The Government of P dent Chun Doo Hwan served warning that it will similar steps in the futu halt the campaign to co signatures in support changes in the constitutio

Police moved into the overnight, barring entry the second time in a week midday police buses and r of uniformed and plain clo officers lined the streets the party headquarters.

They barred opposition ty members and officials entering the building.

French-speakers go on the offensive

From Diana Geddes
Paris

A strategy to save the French language from the ever-growing onslaught of English has been adopted at the first Francophone summit.

Delegates from the 39 French-speaking countries agreed to set up an international agency for the worldwide broadcasting of French-language television programmes with an initial three-year budget of 16 million francs (£1.5 million).

France decided to earmark one of its four telecommunications satellite channels, due to be launched this year, for the relay of only French-spoken programmes. It also agreed to pay 29 million francs to double the hours of French-spoken programmes on its cable television network, TV5, which is already relayed to most European countries and will soon be extended to Africa and North America.

In the world of data processing, where the French are particularly worried by the increasing dominance of English, a group is to be set up to list existing French-language data banks in order to co-ordinate and extend their uses.

Delegates to the summit also agreed to launch a paperback book series devoted to French authors; promote the publication of French school books; and, organize a Francophone book fair to be held every two years in Paris.

Concerning foreign affairs, the summit adopted a carefully-worded resolution condemning "without reservation" the system of apartheid in South Africa but it avoided any mention of sanctions. Several African delegates made clear their displeasure at so mild a resolution.

A second Francophone summit will be held in Quebec in 1988 and a committee has been formed to make preparations and work out guidelines for the new Francophone Club.

10,000 arrested in Delhi

Delhi (AP) — Some 10,000 demonstrators and about 100 opposition deputies were arrested yesterday in a protest against recent government-ordered price rises, police said.

As many as 20,000 demonstrators thronged the streets outside Parliament on the opening day of the new budget session, which was boycotted by opposition parties.

Police said about 100 opposition deputies and their supporters voluntarily placed themselves under arrest.

Some demonstrators broke police lines during the rally and smashed the windscreens of several government buses.

Women activists beat their breasts, chanting "Prices are going up — what are we to do?" Other demonstrators, carrying flags and banners, shouted: "Down, down with (Prime Minister) Rajiv Gandhi."

President Zail Singh told Parliament that the country was facing several crucial economic problems and that progress could not be made without sacrifices by citizens and "hard decisions" by the Government. "The question basically is whether we want to stand on our own feet or not," he said.

● **Kashmir protest:** Angry crowds yesterday clashed with police and set alight two buses in Srinagar, capital of Indian-held Kashmir, the Press Trust of India reported as violence continued over the reopening of a place of worship disputed by Hindus and Muslims (AFP reports).

Fact Nasa chiefs did not know

From Mohsin Ali
Washington

A presidential commission investigating the Challenger explosion has said that at least three key Nasa officials did not know that some rocket engineers had advised against the launching of the shuttle on January 28 because of cold weather.

The commission said that engineers for the shuttle booster rocket builder, Morton Thiokol, had strongly urged against the ill-fated launching.

According to a statement, the panel learnt on the day before the launch that Morton Thiokol had recommended that Challenger should not blast off because of the weather. Although senior Morton Thiokol officials later approved the launch, the statement said, a number of engineers at the company still strongly urged against it.

Mr Jesse Moore, shuttle director, told a Senate subcommittee hearing that he was unaware of the engineers' concern. If he had known he would have sought further information before approving the launch.

Rear-Admiral Richard Truly, a veteran of two space shuttle missions who heads the Naval Space Command, is expected to be named to succeed Mr Moore as Nasa associate administrator in charge of the shuttle programme. Five days before the January 28 explosion, Nasa announced that Mr Moore would become director of the Johnson Space Centre in Houston.

Farm workers jailed for demanding jobs

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

A court in Seville yesterday jailed seven farm labourers for creating a public disorder by staging a sit-in at a town hall to protest against a lack of jobs on the land.

The seven were each jailed for six months for the 1983 sit-in in the Andalucia region. An eighth man was sentenced to 28 months' jail for his part in a previous sit-in elsewhere.

The sentencing court was the same one that, a fortnight ago, ruled in favour of local landowners and against the introduction of the Andalucian regional government's land reform programme passed last October.

A spokesman for the workers' trade union — whose general secretary, Señor Diego Canamero, was one of the eight jailed — said the sentences made it difficult for the labourers to respect the law "which condemns them for demanding work while at the same time it paralyses even the smallest attempt to change Andalucia's land structures responsible for their situation".

The Andalucian government will fight the court's decision against the legality of its agricultural reform programme as will the union against the jail terms.

Tass accused by dissident Jewish pianist

Moscow (Reuter) — The Soviet pianist Vladimir Feltsman yesterday accused the official news agency Tass of distorting an incident in which a piano at the United States ambassador's residence was damaged.

Piano strings were found to have been tampered with only hours before Mr Feltsman, a Jew denied permission to emigrate, was due to give a concert. The US Embasssy blamed "unknown vandals".

Tass said the incident had been turned into an anti-Soviet spectacle. In an open letter to Tass made available to Western reporters, Mr Feltsman denied the agency's accusations that he was hysterical and attention-seeking. "All I said was that I regarded the act as absolutely unacceptable."

91 scientists trapped in polar ice

Hobart, Australia (AP) — In a race against time, an icebreaking ship was being prepared yesterday to rescue 91 Australian scientists and researchers stranded in the Antarctic.

Fears that the group was trapped in polar ice were mounting after an Australian research ship, the Icebird, reported engine trouble and was forced to turn back, said Mr Jim Bleasel, director of the Science Department's Antarctic division.

"Access will depend on exactly how soon the sea ice starts to advance," he said. "If the wind blows the ice into a solid pressured mass, access will be difficult."

Ice conditions were the worst in memory.



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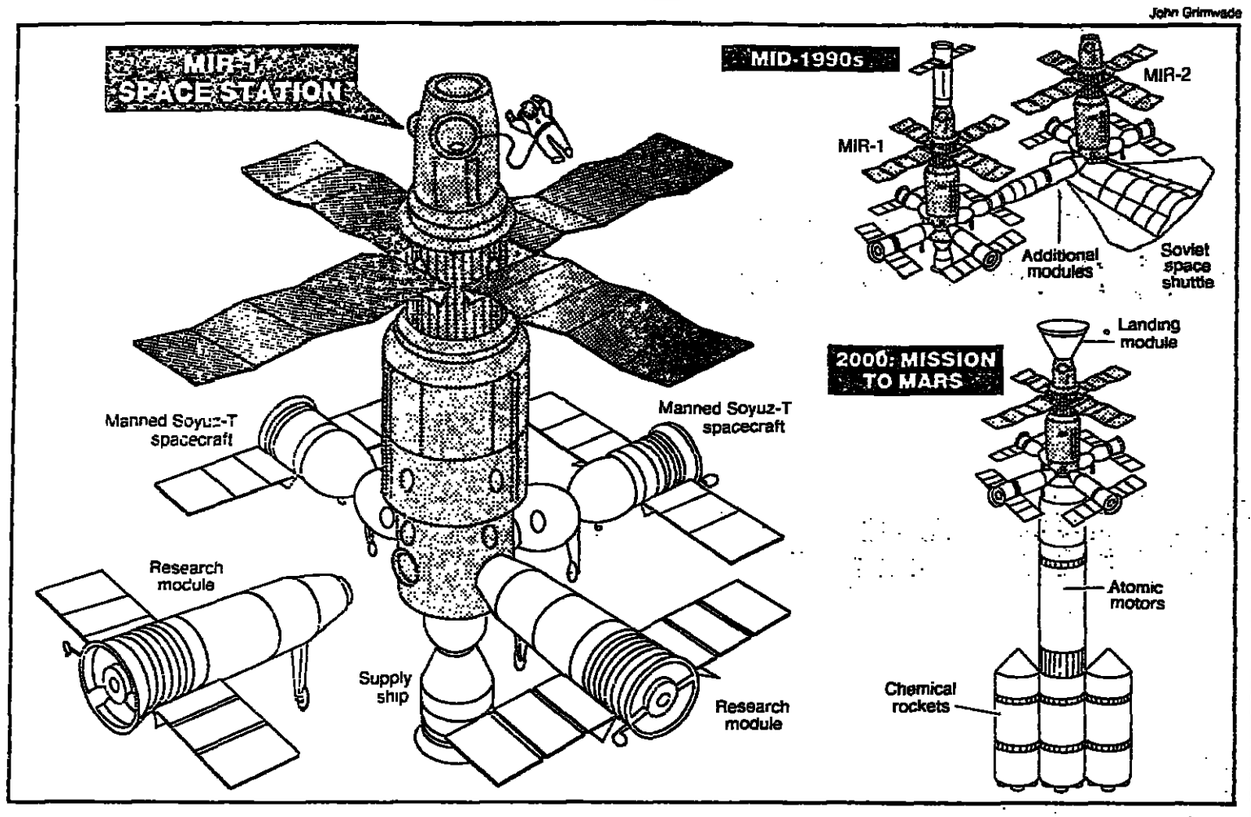
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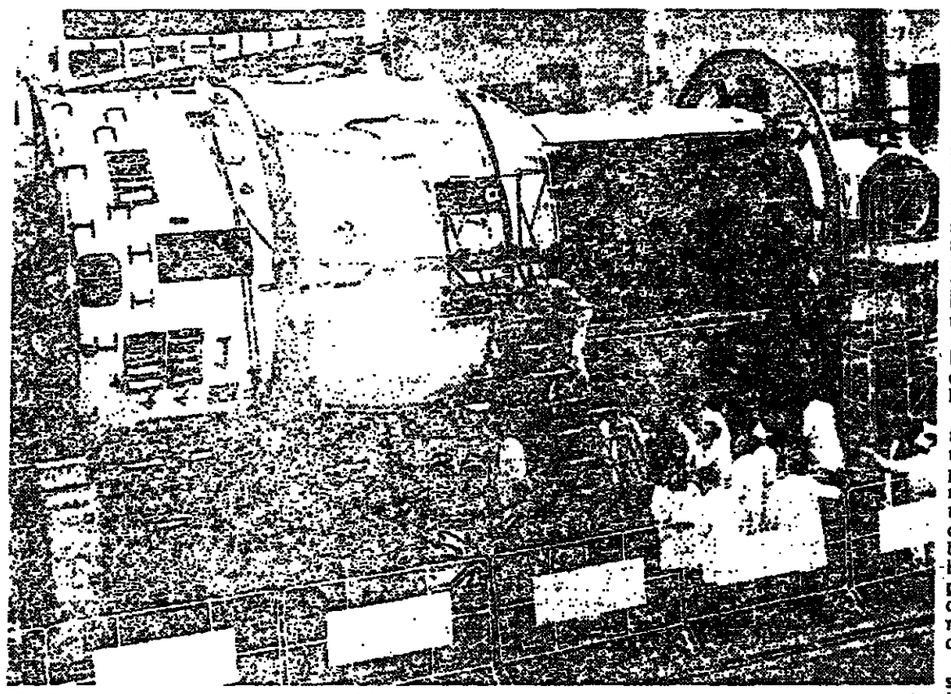
BP Britain at its best.

Russia stakes a space claim

Yesterday's launch of a new, adaptable orbiting station puts the Soviet Union ahead not only in the industrial and military exploitation of space but also in the race to Mars. Keith Hindley plots the possibilities

John Grimwade





Testing, testing: engineers preparing the Mir module for launch from the Baikonur cosmodrome, Kazakhstan

While American scientists wonder what effect the recent Challenger disaster will have on Nasa's shuttle programme and its associated projects, the Soviet Union has launched the first of a new generation of space laboratories, putting the creation of the first permanently-manned space station only a week or so away.

Named *Mir* ("peace" in Russian), the new craft will form the hub of a platform that is planned to present the Soviet Union with direct military reconnaissance advantages, a platform for scientific research, and a staging post for a manned flight to Mars by the late 1990s.

Mir certainly marks a major advance in the Soviet manned space programme. It carries not only the two docking ports for crews to arrive and depart, carried by the old Soviet *Salyut* laboratories, but also four other more solidly built ports. Modules as large as the 20-ton *Salyut* laboratories that the Soviet Union has been flying since 1971 could be docked into these four positions. *Mir* would then act as the vital hub of a massive space station with four separate research laboratories arranged like the spokes of a wheel.

The Russians say that a standard crew of 12 could live comfortably in such a station, with space for 20 or more for short periods. The new station has much more luxurious living quarters than the spartan *Salyut* laboratories. Each cosmonaut will have his own sleeping compartment. From to the bunks in modern atomic submarines and the first concession to privacy in manned spaceflight. The Russians are even speaking of extensive recreation areas and comfortable armchairs.

The MIR vehicle will provide the central heart of a large manned station similar in design to the space laboratories that Nasa hopes to have orbiting the earth in six to eight years' time. The design allows research modules and additional *Mir* craft to be added to the station complex at will — with no apparent limit to the size of the combination.

The *Mir* craft will accept modules of three main types, two of which the Russians have already discussed in detail. "Techno" modules will carry industrial research projects. These will include the production of ultra-high quality materials for the microelectronics industry, the purification of chemicals and mixtures (to provide drugs, for example), engineering experiments such as welding and bonding for future space construction, and biological studies on the crew and other lifeforms.

"Astro" modules will house experiments in the physical sciences including major astronomical projects, one of them a modest sized space telescope. The Russians have already conducted hundreds of such experiments using the old *Salyut* laboratories.

The most frequent visitor to future *Mir* stations, however, is likely to be the secret military spy module, which the Russians have been reluctant to discuss. This will operate more effectively from the low orbit usually employed by the Russians than similar cameras, telescopes and sensors carried at greater heights by American space shuttles.

Defence work is the mainstay of the Soviet space programme. Three of the seven *Salyut* space laboratories of recent years were exclusively military while the others undoubtedly carried out spy missions.

Crews will travel to and from the new stations in the three-man *Soyuz-T* capsules, using the two small docking ports. With an expected standard crew of 12, this means that *Mir* will be the first permanently manned space station. Within two or three years, as MIR facilities expand, the Russians will commission their own mini-shuttle to carry up to half a dozen cosmonauts and technicians along with important equipment.

Eventually this shuttle will take off and land at any major military airport, allowing great flexibility in wartime. And the problem of supplies has been overcome. Most of them - food and fuel, for example - will be carried to *Mir* using the tested unmanned "Progress" supply vessels. These have operated with the *Salyut* stations for many years now.

The unique flexibility of the *Mir* station is likely to be exploited in more than just Earth orbit. The Russians have always made it clear that they intend to send cosmonauts to both the Moon and Mars. A *Mir* station built up in lunar orbit could act as a permanent forward base for routine exploration of the Moon using two-man landing vehicles. Such a vehicle was being developed for the abandoned Moon landing programme in the late 1960s, and it would be surprising if this design is not now being re-examined and improved.

The *Mir* vehicle could also provide the heart of a pair of two or three-man spaceships capable of making the two-and-a-half-year journey to Mars, going into orbit around the planet and putting two men on the surface. Mars has been discussed by Russian engineers and cosmonauts for more than 10 years, and at least half a dozen leading Soviet experts have said they expect to see their cosmonauts there before the year 2,000.

To get there, the Russians must make several developments. First, a new rocket launcher — even more powerful than the American Saturn moon rocket — will be needed to put the many parts of a Mars complex into orbit. The Russians are known to have been developing such a booster for at least 20 years. Attempts to test early prototypes in the late 1960s led to disastrous explosions, but a new model is thought to be in a late stage of development with test flights soon.

Second, the Russians will need a space tug to assemble a Mars vehicle in Earth orbit. Such a vehicle has already been orbited and tested by the Russians.

Finally, they are now believed to be developing a massive atomic rocket motor which would prove invaluable on a Mars trip. Firing at modest power for long periods, such a motor would dramatically cut the weight of a Mars craft once chemical rockets pushed the Mars vehicles away from Earth orbit. Atomic motors are twice as efficient as even the liquid hydrogen and liquid oxygen motors of Nasa's space shuttle. The Americans were developing atomic motors themselves 20 years ago, but the project was abandoned.

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Butterflies safe in the system

Why developers will no longer be able to plead ignorance when rare species are under threat

Conservationists will soon have a powerful electronic ally in their fight to defend the countryside. Within a few years they will be able to summon at the touch of a computer key a comprehensive inventory of the United Kingdom's best wild places and their natural treasures.

The Royal Society for Nature Conservation expect this data bank, now being assembled by the its county branches, to be consulted routinely by planning authorities and public bodies when any likely corner of the land is about to be smothered in concrete. No longer will developers be able to plead innocence of the rare flowers, animals or birds on a site which they are about to flatten.

"It would be an unwise decision maker, charged with any responsibility for nature conservation, who failed to consult organizations with such information at their finger tips", says Dr Franklyn Perring, the RSNC's general secretary.

The list could end the need for dramatic stop-the-bulldozer interventions by environmentalists. Forewarned by the data bank at planning application stage, developers would court public displeasure if they failed to accommodate a rare species in their plans.

The computerized record could also end some of the breathless, and in conservation terms doubtful, habitat rescue attempts. In 1984, for example, the Suffolk Trust rolled up 5,000sq yds of turf at Warren Heath, Ipswich, to save a colony of the rare silver studded-blue butterfly from a hypermarket site. The trust did not hear of the scheme in time to persuade the developers to change their plans.

The list will be unique in scope

So far 23 of the 46 country nature trusts which make up the RSNC, the only genuinely national organization interested in all aspects of nature conservation, are equipped with the £5,000 Comart computers. The first task of the trusts is to record the 1,600 reserves which they own or manage; as small as Deep Mill Pond, near Great Missenden in Buckinghamshire, and as big as Benmore Coigach, 5,948 hectares of heather moorland in the Scottish Highlands.

The trusts will also record the 800 reserves owned by the Nature Conservancy Council, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, the Woodland Trust, National Trust and other local bodies, and 5,000 sites of special scientific interest (SSSIs). Eventually the list will include sub sites — smaller areas interesting for wildlife but so far unprotected — and a further category, protected roadside verges (PRVs).

The counties will regularly post their floppy disks to a central point where the RSNC's master list will be updated. Within a few years the list will be complete and unique in its scope. While much of this site data already exists in written form, conservation groups do not have the manpower to use it effectively. Even the partly-computerized records of the government's own Nature Conservancy Council are confined to the SSSIs and 200 national nature reserves.

The software for the national site recording scheme was written by Bernard Chandler, head of environmental studies at Hatfield Polytechnic, and his students. So far the scheme, including computers, has cost about £100,000, funded with grants from BP and the NCC.

Trusts are facing a daunting challenge

The software enables trusts to record the essential details of each site: its status and ownership, area, its importance — for instance as a habitat for bats, reptiles or mammals — and its key indicator species, such as horseshoe vetch on chalk downlands, and greater spearwort on lowland wetland.

Chandler's team is modifying the software to allow the RSNC to monitor habitat changes more swiftly and in far greater detail. It will also enable the trusts to make comparative lists of such different habitat types as ancient woodland and unimproved grassland.

The existing software cannot take in every plant species in a site, but some trusts are facing even this daunting challenge. One of the biggest trusts, the Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Naturalists Trust (BBONT), has used 20 MSC-funded botanists on a four-year survey of 1,300 plant species in 8,000 sites in the three counties, some as small as unplanted corners of fields.

The RSNC's Dr Franklyn Perring said that as well as warning developers of what they might destroy, trusts would also be able to tell landowners about the contents of sites suitable to be made into reserves.

"As the organization most concerned with small sites, it falls to us to have the most complete information of sites of any importance. It is important that people who own or influence the use of land should be aware of the nature it contains."

Gareth Huw Davies

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THE TIMES SATURDAY

The weekend starts here



Catering to all tastes

It's a common delusion: you throw a few dinner parties, are profusely complimented by your friends, and conclude that you could make money from your culinary skills. Why not open a restaurant? But beware . . . before you choose the tablecloths for the bistro, read *The Times* guide to the pitfalls of catering to the *hoi polloi*, and take advice from the budding restaurateurs who bit off more than they could chew.

Broadway baby
Neil Simon at the National

Glacier country
A welcome in Iceland

Portfolio
£22,000 to be won

Can you always get your copy of The Times?

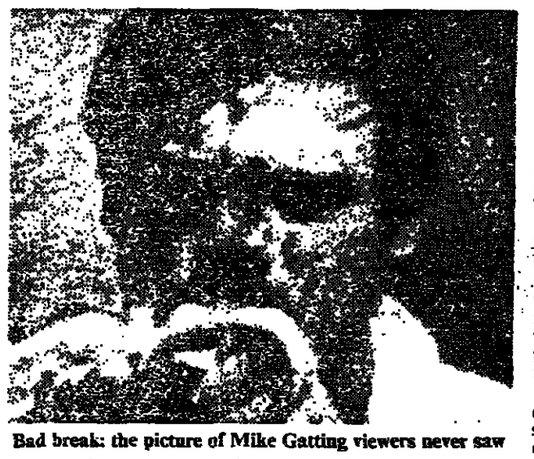
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TV stumps cricket fans

Television bosses drew a blank over coverage of the Caribbean tour, John Young writes



Bad break: the picture of Mike Gatting viewers never saw

The picture in *The Times* yesterday of blood pouring from the face of Mike Gatting, the England batsman, after his nose had been broken by a short ball from Malcolm Marshall, was not a pretty sight. It may have made many people wonder why they had not seen the incident on television, or indeed why no pictures of the England tour of the Caribbean have been on our screens at all.

The answer is, as all too often in sport nowadays, a dispute about money. The West Indian Cricket Board of Control is demanding more for the television rights than either the BBC or the independent companies are prepared to pay. More than that, the board is even asking £300 a day for news coverage of each of the five five-day Test matches and the four one-day internationals.

Both the BBC and ITV object strongly to the principle of payment for access to news which they say should, in the interests of freedom of the media, be available to all. On Tuesday they went so far as to issue a joint statement in which they described the board's demand as without precedent and unacceptable.

It also said: "Lengthy discussions have taken place with the WICBC and their representative, Mr Mike Watt, during which both television news organizations have explained their position: namely that news access to Test matches has never been the subject of payment in this country or elsewhere, and that should television companies be required to pay for their news coverage, their position as members of the press corps, who do not pay for coverage, becomes invidious".

A point of principle concerning news coverage may be understandable; the absence of an arrangement for edited highlights or ball-by-ball coverage is another matter. Negotiations have, in fact, been taking place for several months, and after the BBC had turned down the asking price of £500,000, which it considered exorbitant, an approach was made to London Weekend Television to see if they would be interested in buying on behalf of the independent network.

Once again the answer was no, but there was a suggestion that Channel 4 might be interested. This would have been a new departure, since the BBC has traditionally virtually monopolized cricket coverage. Channel 4 has been showing increasing interest in sport, and its racing coverage in particular has attracted much favourable comment.

But despite what has clearly been a long period of brinkmanship, with the West Indies board evidently convinced up to the last minute that the British would come to heel, it now seems almost certain that there will be no compromise and no change of heart.

By comparison with the £1.3 million which the BBC eventually agreed to pay after a protracted dispute with the Football League for coverage of six live league matches, the Milk Cup semi-finals and final, and 14 recorded matches, to many people the board's demand may not seem that steep.

Comparisons are difficult to make, since both the BBC and the independent companies refuse to provide details, claiming that the contracts they reach with the various governing bodies of different sports are private and confidential. The BBC refuses to say, for example, what it pays the Test and County Cricket Board for home coverage or what it has in the past paid for pictures from Australian or New Zealand television.

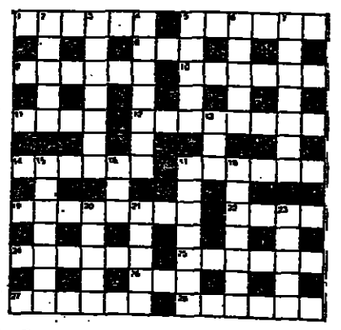
In many parts of the Caribbean the technical standard of television still leaves a lot to be desired and it is unlikely that either the BBC or ITV would find it satisfactory to take pictures from a local station. This would mean that in addition to meeting the Board's demand, they would have to send their own camera team. Moreover, the smaller islands, such as Antigua, where the Fifth Test is to be played, do not have satellite facilities.

Beyond money and technical problems, the time factor is such that the hours of play coincide with peak evening viewing hours and, while cricket enthusiasts might regard the prospect of arriving home to watch five or six hours of uninterrupted cricket on a winter's evening as unalloyed bliss, the reality is that none of the television companies, not even Channel 4, is going to rearrange its schedules and drop programmes with high audience ratings in order to accommodate something which, painful as it is to admit, would not attract mass viewership.

An LWT executive was quite open about it. "Quite frankly we have just not got the slots," he said. "Where on earth would we put it?"

The point about not disrupting early evening schedules may be a valid one. But there is surely a vast audience that would stay up to watch, say, half an hour of edited highlights late at night, when highlights of domestic Test matches are normally shown during the summer for the benefit of those who have been unable to watch during the day.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 881)



ACROSS
1 Snub (6)
5 Awning (6)
8 Education body (1,1,1)
9 Injury (6)
10 Modern (6)
11 Foot covering (4)
12 Mercy (8)
14 Astute (6)
17 Wanderer (6)
19 Scholarly person (8)
22 Road levy (4)
24 Old sailor (3,3)
25 Dwell in (6)
26 Alphabet (1,1,1)
27 Assault (6)
28 Warder (6)

DOWN
2 Soil (5)
3 Hawaiian guitar (7)
4 Lump (7)
5 Slice meat (5)
6 Wall recess (5)
7 Style (7)
13 Low (3)
15 Female beneficiary (7)
16 Spider's mesh (3)
17 Oar support (7)
18 Teleprompter (7)
20 Nine-headed monster (5)
21 Royal (5)
23 Decline (5)

SOLUTION TO No 880
ACROSS: 8 Inland Revenue 9 Mix 10 Sugar beet 11 Scrub 13 Rivalry 16 Prowess 19 Lotto 22 Nutriment 24 Imp 25 Mount of Olives
DOWN: 1 Litmus 2 Elixir 3 Unusable 4 Kruger 5 Over 6 Unreal 7 Deftly 12 Car 14 Volatile 15 Rot 16 Panama 17 Output 18 See off 20 Thieve 21 Oppose 23 Iota

Commissioner for Local Administration in Scotland
APPOINTMENT OF THE "SCOTTISH LOCAL OMBUDSMAN"

Mr E L Gillett, Commissioner for Local Administration in Scotland, is to retire on 30 June 1986. In accordance with section 21(2) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1975, the Secretary of State for Scotland will, after consultation with the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities, recommend a successor for appointment by Her Majesty the Queen.

The Commissioner's main task is to investigate and report on complaints of injustice in consequence of maladministration by local authorities and certain other bodies. The Commissioner's office is in Edinburgh. The post is part-time (at present half-time), is remunerated at the appropriate portion of a salary of £40,000 to £42,000 per annum and is pensionable. It is to be expected that only a person with considerable experience of public administration at a senior level will be appointed.

Persons interested in being considered for the post or wishing to suggest a name or names for consideration should write in confidence by 14 March 1986 to:

The Secretary, Scottish Development Department, Room 4/89, New St Andrew's House, EDINBURGH EH1 3SZ

Issued by the Scottish Office

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'Inside I knew this day would come ...it was strange, because in all my imaginings I had never taken it to the very end. On the one hand, it was exciting, on the other it felt as if we had last met a few hours ago'

Avital Shcharansky



Portrait of happiness: Avital and Anatoly Shcharansky reunited after 11 years of separation

Avital Shcharansky is picking up the threads of her 11-year marriage which began again last week when her husband Anatoly crossed to the West. Bel Mooney met the couple at home in their Jerusalem flat

Avital Shcharansky had had enough. A week of television crews invading the small flat-cum-office in the new suburb, people approaching her in the street with congratulations, and now the agony of her wisdom tooth. "For years I have had no trouble with my teeth and now this comes the very week Anatoly is free. It must be, what is the word — psychological."

Anatoly was taking the interviews in his stride, full of energy, jokes and such diversions as a demonstration of the morse code he used in prison. Avital kept out of it, refusing to talk to people, carefully "minded" by a quiet man wearing the Orthodox skullcap who kept at bay those who would pester her for interviews. In the 11 years of campaigning for her husband Avital has been a public figure: "Now I want the world to forget about me. I need just to live the life of a normal woman at last".

She is clear what that means, asking how many children I have. "Two? That's good." For that is what she wants now, at 35, before it is too late. "We now have to work out what is between Anatoly and myself. And we have great plans; most of all I hope — I hope — for children."

Much prettier than photographs suggest, despite the tight headscarf of the Orthodox married woman, Avital is also much gentler than I expected — preceded as she is by a tough reputation for not allowing personal questions and making political speeches instead. In fact, far from being irritated by constant speculation that she, influenced by her friends in Gush Emunim (the right wing nationalist-spiritual movement that seeks to extend Jewish settlements), may have problems with her more secular husband, Avital laughs merrily. "We just make fun of all that. This morning Anatoly said to me: 'The whole world is concerned with how we are making out together, except us'. We are not at all concerned. We laugh, full of good feelings towards one another. We shall work it all out."

I sensed she did not want to be drawn, but Anatoly himself was more forthcoming: "From my point of view there is no real difference between us. We have the same inspiration, but maybe there are different forms in which we express our views. Maybe when I have studied more we will become nearer in the form in which we express our religious feelings, but maybe not. What matters is the feelings themselves, not the form."

For a second his habitual good humour shifts into exasperation, as he waves aside criticism that, for example, he has not been wearing the skullcap Avital placed on his head on his arrival. "Today I read something in the Press which said I was in the hands of the religious Mafia. I tell you those friends of Avital who have sacrificed years, helping her, travelling with her, organizing this flat, are people of tact and delicacy. They do not try to push me into becoming more Orthodox. Listen, I read a lie in the newspaper that on Saturday I was taken to a synagogue almost by force, when all day Avital and I were at home. It's a free Press, the freedom to write that they like." In his long protest there is an undercurrent of real tension, and the Yamulka is still absent from his head.

Avital says that three things kept her going during the 11-year separation: the friends mentioned by her husband, being in Israel ("representing him here in the country of which we both dreamed"), and above all, the thought of Anatoly in prison: "I could think of how well he was doing, how strong he was, and that gave me the push to continue". Even though there were times when she was close to despair, "inside I knew this day would come". And then it was the meeting at Frankfurt: "It was strange, because in all my imaginings I had never taken it to the very end. On the one hand it was exciting, but on the other hand it felt as if we had last met only a few hours ago."

He felt the same, describing — most movingly — how through all the red tape, talking to ambassadors and putting his foot for the first time on free soil, he thought only of Avital. When at last the hellos changed to shaloms there was suddenly a closed door ahead of him: "And I went through, and there was Avital sitting there alone. I can't remember how many people I crossed to reach her, but there she was, and I turned back to 1972, and in fact she looked exactly the same. Exactly." His voice grew husky: "I had imagined that moment many times when sleeping, but always just at the moment when I was approaching Avital I was awakened. But now you see, we are together one week, and still I am not awakened."

No physical change perhaps, but had they noticed other changes? Curious about this, Avital is seeking them: "I have studied him

Anatoly shows awe at his wife's strength of character

to see if he is the same, and so far I think so. But we are not much alone now. I can imagine that as we develop our life together there will be moments when I think he is different. I am interested to discover what he is deep inside him. I feel that there are now even more good things inside him that I can discover. After all we have gone through, we shall be able to sort out any problems we have in knowing ourselves. It will all work out the right way."

It is clear that Anatoly Shcharansky is impressed by this woman he has met, whom last he knew as a shy art student who had only recently discovered that she was a Jew, and was coming to terms with that. Now, in Israel, she is an important figure in her own right. "When I find out more and more details about her campaign I am really surprised by this tremendous energy. And some political skill which I didn't suppose to find from her." Though he attempts light-hearted masculine jokiness of the "I want my wife at home" variety, he shows sincere awe at his wife's strength of character: "Although I can know only bits of what she has done for me, I can say that on the very first day of our acquaintance I knew that it would be so for the rest of our life. So I was never in doubt that she would do her best for me. But to find her so efficient and so practical . . . yes, that is a surprise."

She brushes all praise aside, saying that she did only what any wife would have done for her husband. "To be a fighter and a public person, that is not me, and I didn't like it each time I had to force myself to talk to a big audience, to sit with Mrs Thatcher, and so on. Now I have all this experience but I do not want it, I just want to be private. I will help Anatoly to do the work he wants to do to help the Jews who are still in Russia, of course." Even though such campaigning may take him away from her a great deal? She shrugs serenely: "I very much want my husband to be with me, but it is a great cause, an important cause for us, and so I will try to manage."

You would expect Mrs Shcharansky to feel bitter, even in passing, at the thought of all the years that have been stolen from them, yet she rebukes the suggestion. "I do not think like that, not at all. I think that in the future those days will come when we think that those years behind were very important for us. Each human being cannot go through life without trying to discover God's purpose, and I believe that what happened to us did not happen by accident. It is a proof to me that God exists. It is a miracle that we have this after all our work and struggle and faith that Anatoly would one day be free. I am very grateful to God for the miracle."

Anatoly echoes her acceptance. "No, the time was not stolen from us. The time is stolen if you do not know what you lived those years for. The time is stolen when you find out nothing about the world and about yourself. The time is lost when it was of no help to those around you. But during that time I could test myself, and find out about myself, and also Avital and I, we lived a real life — *real*, with real, deep feelings. And I discovered that the most important feeling is — let's not use big words — love itself. That's what all this means to me. So those years were not lost. To start thinking: what if Avital and I had lived those years together in Israel? . . . It's impossible. Such things were not meant to take place. Believe me when I say it simply, those long years apart were worth living, truly. It was a hard period of life, but also responsible and . . . impressive for us both."

Avital is amazed by all the speculation about how they would cope with their reunion, simply because she never felt they were out of touch. Both are delighted by the suggestion that there is such a thing as spiritual contact. Avital's face lights up. "Yes, we were, very much so. In the heart, you understand? So close all the time. It is nice now when Anatoly tells me that at a certain moment he was thinking something, and I say, yes, at that moment I was thinking it too. Things that are unique. So we always connected with each other in that way." Asked the same question, quite separately, Anatoly responded in the same vein. "Earlier this year I was on hunger strike and in the punishment cell, and suddenly they brought me a postcard from Avital, which was a great shock to me because it was so unexpected. They often did not let her letters through though she wrote to me twice a week. On the card was a picture of the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem, and old men by it with the rams' horns they use to make signals at certain festivals. And she had written: 'Through which horn shall I blow for you to hear me?' And truly, I did hear her, there in the punishment cell. It was such a deep striking moment for me."

Alone, they talk in Hebrew, though he is rusty, necessitating Russian too, although that language will be abandoned in time. She laughed: "Sometimes, during this crowded week, he has even spoken to me in English." Avital never thinks of Russia; that part of her is buried, gone. She tells the story of the famous writer who, asked where he was born, replied

Throughout the separation, they never felt out of touch

that he had been born in Israel 2,000 years ago, but found himself in Russia, in the Diaspora, by accident. That is how I feel. This is my home, we now have to assimilate Anatoly."

I had a sense that her conviction stems from the fact that her parents had hidden her Jewishness from her brother and herself, and when (in very late teens) she knew the truth, "I became at peace with myself, and thought of Israel". For Anatoly it is a little different: he did not experience such a late revelation, and seems far more an inhabitant of the larger world than his wife. He says he knows that there is much to understand in Israeli politics, and that he has much to learn about Judaism, and is also aware of the dangers of becoming a propaganda symbol for the Russians, and to a lesser extent, the Americans. "I will learn and study, and then I will see influence I can have."

As for Russia, he has no ds to deny that part of his lify Avital seems to do: "The gra- my father is in Russia, ancs mother lives there, so, of ctr my roots are still there. I thi7 would be a kind of betrayd yourself to cut yourself off an that your previous life n nothing. We Jews comin, Israel, we must save our ex ence of living in the Diaspo gain a better understandin world problems." And of oppressed peoples? "I have f myself able to express my su for people of other national religious identifications."

Avital is glad that he left nothing but the book of ps she gave him years ago, the they would not allow him to with him into the punishmen but which has come to have a symbolic value for him. It wi who told him always to lo psalm 27 for comfort, an would sing it out of key wh his cell, deciding that if o guard could hear he might a be punished too. There wa verse of consolation for the branded as a spy: "Deliver m over unto the will of enemies, for false witnesse risen against me."

Now, Avital says, whe Anatoly leaves the flat even short while he asks: "Wher my psalms? I must take th And he will have them with h the secret holiday destinatior arrived at yesterday. For he Avital is taking one thing sketchbook, hoping at last t time for the pursuit she en most of all, all those years Russia.

©Times Newspapers Ltd, 198

Mothers with energy to spare



Women breast-feeding their babies need not eat to compensate completely for the energy used up by the milk — their bodies will do it for them. The discovery has been made by a group of obstetricians and scientists in Dundee and published in the current issue of the *British Medical Journal*. The researchers studied a dozen lactating women, seven women bottle-feeding their babies, and a further seven without babies.

It is commonly accepted that breast-feeding women need to increase their food intake by 500 kcal a day, about 25 per cent above normal. Any shortfall between that and the amount of energy used in milk production will be made up from fat stored during pregnancy.

Two sets of experiments on the Dundee women suggest that breast-feeding women expend energy much more efficiently than either of the other two groups. They seem able to conserve their own energy and use it to subsidize their own milk production.

This idea is borne out by surveys in a number of Third World countries: despite poor diets, women there are still able to nourish healthy babies for the first year of life.

The cause of this change in efficiency remains a mystery, although it may explain one common observation. Some breast-feeding women simply cannot lose weight. They complain of being hungry, but it may be that they are not quite as hungry as they believe. They are simply eating too much to burn up.

Regular checks to control diabetes



Keeping the sugar level in the body constant is the key to controlled diabetes and the best chance a sufferer has of staying well. Part of the problem is that most symptoms of poor control develop only when the sugar level is far too high, causing blurred vision and excessive thirst, or too low, triggering trembling, sweating and hangover-type headaches. But the diabetes may still not be under control, even when there are no symptoms.

In this month's issue of Balance, the magazine of the British Diabetic Association, Dr Peter Wise, of Charing Cross Hospital, west London, explains why diabetics should not wait for these severe symptoms to develop. Regular, daily checking of the urine is all important. If any of the symptoms do occur then the testing should be increased to every four hours, and if the sugar level remains positive, a doctor should be contacted immediately.

MEDICAL BRIEFING

A father's care for the unborn child



It is generally well accepted that an expectant mother increases her emotional attachment to her unborn baby as her pregnancy progresses. Commonsense suggests that this is a natural, protective response designed to ensure that the baby is cared for when it is born. New work from Australia indicates that expectant fathers may respond in much the same way.

Dr John Condon, from Bedford Park, Australia, asked both partners of 54 couples expecting their first child to complete a questionnaire on their feelings towards the baby.

He found that expectant fathers were less likely to outwardly admit their feelings. But they were just as attached to the foetus as the expectant mothers in terms of feeling close to the baby, wanting to protect it and being concerned for its well-being.

Men frequently had dreams about the foetus, and the future child often preoccupied their thoughts.

As with the women the feelings of attachment grew particularly when the foetus started to kick, although throughout the pregnancy men were much more convinced that the baby was "really there".

Writing in the *Journal of Psychosomatic Obstetrics and Gynaecology*, Dr Condon says that men and women reacted to the foetus with striking similarity. Developing a relationship with the unborn child may be just as crucial to expectant fathers as to expectant mothers.

Learning to spot when this is not happening could be one way of predicting which partner may have difficulty once the baby is born.

Twice bitten . . . bats and rabies



Bats in Finland and Switzerland are to be screened for rabies virus after a 30-year-old man who had been bitten by bats in both countries died of the disease. The case reported in the Lancet is the first linked to bats in Europe.

The man died at Helsinki University Hospital last October. He had been bitten in Switzerland by a bat a year before he developed any symptoms of rabies and had been bitten again in Finland.

Doctors from Helsinki say they want to find out more about the virus itself, in particular whether rabies vaccines work against the disease when spread by bats.

Olivia Timbs and Lorraine Fraser

Since fashion became obsessed with the casual — all knitted cuffs and gumboots — you'd think there was no place left in a woman's wardrobe for the smart suit. You'd be wrong. It comes to life once a year for the awsome ritual of the Parents' Evening. Its tweedy, old-fashioned comfort is a remarkable aid to the confidence needed to face the catalogue of character faults which would be hilarious if you knew they belonged to another child.

I rush into the main hall late, alone. My husband manages to be abroad at such times. The parents of the nervous and dithering clutch sheaves of notes and have badly-bitten nails. The father of the fat boy who was nearly asked to leave for disruptive behaviour has come fresh from the school funds committee.

The Oxbridge-educated parents of the small handful of star pupils glide around quietly. During interviews they nod economically; no need for ingratiating smiles here.

My shocking school rapport

FIRST PERSON

Vivien Tomlinson

I have forgotten the school report which tells me which teachers to see. It has already caused anguish at home with such comments as: "frivolous, inattentive and lazy", "hopelessly disorganized approach" and "must learn to control his sense of humour".

It would be an even more incriminating document to bring along since the headmaster's final copper-plated summary has been whited over with correction fluid and a nearly passable forgery screams: "This is a brilliant pupil".

After receiving universally dismal news from maths, physics, chemistry, geography and Latin, I make for the library. Someone has told me that this is the English queue. We move slowly towards our target — an Irish cleric dressed in black, glum-faced and thin-lipped from aeons of pumping Eng. Lit. into unwilling heads. Thirty-five minutes pass before he raises one eyebrow and I take my place across his desk.

He tells me all the expected things: that my son is a very bad influence on his class, has no aptitude for work and is on course to fail spectacularly.

"I have another thing to tell you", he whispers darkly in a thick Cork brogue. "I believe he might be watching unsuitable videos in his spare time." So that's what he's been doing when he says he's nipping down to the corner cafe, I reflect.

Just then a remarkable thing happens. He refers to my son by the wrong C tian name. Are we not ta about the same dreadfu then? My mind goes with fear. The rev brother looks worried, r more papers and trace pen down a list of name bearing becomes badly paired with supressed ria.

"Is there incest in family?". I hear him "Good heavens, I should not", I reply. Is he mad I?

"Well, if there isn't a in the family — this one one in the sixth form — we are talking abou wrong boy", says the man rising and shakin hand. "I must say", he a the blarney surfacing, couldn't understand jus such a bad pupil could such a nice mother".

During the rest o evening I became even disorganized. I was in tive and lazy when it ca moving along the line — had one hell of a job controlling my sense of humour. Next time I must try harder.

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THE TIMES DIARY

Political strong man

Michael "Tarzan" Heseltine is fondly nicknamed. At a drinks party in his London flat some years ago, I am told his alsatian went berserk and "Tarzan" valiantly put himself between the rampaging dog and his terrified guests. As the brute snarled and refused to climb the walls, he ushered the guests to safety outside. According to guests, Heseltine burned and tried to subdue the dog in the struggle. I understand, Heseltine was forced to kill it with his own bare hands. At the time the guests agreed to keep quiet about the incident lest it be misinterpreted. However, recent events has prompted one to break out: "Everyone thought Michael's action was extremely brave and courageous. It was all very distressing." Yesterday Heseltine refused to elaborate on the incident. "What a ridiculous story," he said. "I had the Alsatian 20 years ago. I cannot see the relevance of any possible interest to anyone."

Like father . . .

Mathematics prodigy Ruth Lawrence has leapt to John Carlisle's defence. The 14-year-old Oxford undergrad proposed an emergency motion in St Hugh's junior common room condemning the "academic hooligans" who prevented Carlisle from addressing Oriel Monday Club. Sadly, her motion was lost by more than 40 votes to 10. Nor did the performance of Carlisle's father, Harry, whispering suggestions to her and shaking his head furiously at contrary arguments, impress JCR president Sue Simmons. She tells me moves are being considered to exclude Lawrence Senior from future meetings. "Just another example of parental intolerance," he told me.

Had Carlisle been able to speak, he should have appeared in Oriel's own annex, named after a man who denied freedom of speech: Nelson Mandela.

BARRY FANTONI



"Found guilty, your honour . . . see you later, ducks"

Mac takeaway

Hitting another publishing takeover, Macmillan is to announce the purchase of Lord Forte's clothing empire. Sidgwick and Jackson. Yesterday Nicholas Byam Shaw, managing director of Macmillan, told me: "Lord Forte is very concerned that Sidgwick was too much alone in Trust House Forte and was keen to see them purchased by someone who would preserve their independence. The negotiations, however, have still not been completed." He added that he hoped the Sidgwick list and staff would remain unaffected by the takeover.

Today a source lamented the takeover: "As an author, I cannot see Sidgwick competing with Macmillan for a book." Sidgwick, which recently closed its erudite journal *Time and Tide*, boasts in its recent publications a biography of Richard Burton, and *The Royal family album*.

THE Mirror
FORWARD WITH BRITAIN

Question: why has the *Mirror* curiously reintroduced the Union Jack into its masthead, having dropped it a year ago? Answer: I don't know . . . and neither yesterday did Robert Maxwell, Mirror's press office. Maxwell's minions. *Surely* Mr Maxwell hasn't run out of ideas for naming the new paper due to roll off his Fleet Street presses next week?

DAILY Mirror
FORWARD WITH BRITAIN

Hatton vote

Is Mark Hatton finally losing grip on his base power base? After an inquorate meeting last month was declared invalid because of membership irregularities, his local ward, Tottenham, finally met again this week. It was hardly a case. however, of Hatton sweeping back to power: in the vote for ward chairmanship he scraped home by just one vote; his nomination for the election of Broad Green constituency succeeded by just two; and the voting for six delegates from the ward to the constituency, which ended up humiliatingly all square. Not that we need worry: the results as final: fresh elections, I am told, are flying in the face of the meeting's composition.

PHS

Stop this Sunday steamroller

by Teddy Taylor

Among the government's many problems the Sunday Trading Bill, which proposes to remove all restrictions on shop hours, may appear relatively minor. It could lead, however, to a backbenchers' revolt fiercer than those over Austin Rover and payments to the "illegal" EEC budget. Possibly 100 Tory MPs will abstain or vote against it. Unlike the recent "one night" revolts, it could continue throughout the bill's long deliberations until July, when royal assent is likely.

I cannot think of anything more damaging to party morale than to be forced to table a "guillotine" motion to curb the debates in committee on an issue where MPs are well aware of a deep-rooted and substantial unhappiness in constituencies.

It is all too easy to interpret a flood of letters from constituents and packed meetings in local churches as an upsurge of popular feeling when similar campaigns in the past — notably opposition to the proposed abolition of resale price maintenance, now seen to be a good thing — faded away after the reform was put into effect. But the Sunday trading proposals seem to have sparked off a genuine and fundamental wave of concern, particularly unwelcome when the government is going through a bad patch.

It is not just the so-called "religious" minority who are concerned about what they see as a fundamental change to our style of life; it is also clear that small shopkeepers believe that legalized Sunday trading will force them, against their will, to open on Sundays to maintain their market share.

Is there an escape route for the Government from this damaging confrontation? The most obvious would be to drop the bill, but it would be difficult, if not impossible, for any government to abandon a major piece of its legislative programme without losing credibility.

Allow a free vote? That is the most commonly argued alternative, but in that event many supporters of Sunday trading, heeding objections by constituents, would find other pressing engagements on the night and the opponents would flood the lobby to wreck the bill.

Limit the size of shops permitted to open or the number of employees permitted to serve the public? Any such plan would be a nightmare for trading standards officers and would produce more anomalies than at present.

My own view, as an opponent of the wholesale removal of shop hour restrictions, is that every district council should be given the right to determine its own shopping hours. The Auld Report, which was the basis of the new legislation, did say that "shopping seems to us to be one area where a reasonable case might be made for local discretion." In fairness, having made that point, the report argued that the wholesale removal of restrictions would be preferable to local variations, but the inquiry team certainly did not throw out "local option", as some have suggested.

The local option would ensure that local people, whether shopkeepers or shoppers, could have the final say in the pattern of shopping. Councils could hold referenda for guidance. This would also acknowledge that opinions vary throughout the country. I am sure that some London boroughs would opt for unrestricted trading — and equally that in towns like Cambridge, where Sunday is a day of peace and quiet, restrictions would continue.

It will be argued that such variations will prodcuce administrative problems and market distortions. Although open shops in one area might deprive shopkeepers in neighbouring "closed" areas of business, it would be a matter for the traders concerned to persuade their local councils and residents to change the policy. Likewise, the "open" towns might argue for the restoration of the Sunday peace of their neighbours.

No solution is ideal. But it seems to me that the quiet of our Sundays is a treasure which local communities should have the right to preserve if they wish. Apart from this issue of principle, the local option plan would help the government over a political minefield of its own creation by restoring to local councils a little of the power which has been removed from them.

The author is Conservative MP for Southend East.

Christopher Walker previews next week's Soviet Communist Party congress

Gorbachov's chance to mould a new Russia

Moscow

Next week's 27th Congress of the Soviet Communist Party is confidently expected to be one of the most significant in its chequered history. The five-yearly gathering, the high point of the Soviet political calendar, will give Mikhail Gorbachov an opportunity to consolidate his power.

Attended by some 5,000 delegates from the 15 Soviet republics, the gathering is dedicated to transforming the life of a nation where a combination of corruption, inefficiency, technological backwardness and bureaucratic indolence have threatened to make a mockery of Soviet claims to offer a superior alternative to capitalism.

Coming less than three weeks before the first anniversary of Gorbachov's takeover in the Kremlin, the Congress will also provide both East and West with an opportunity to assess his achievements at a moment regarded as a watershed in the history of the communist state. Although there is no denying the new mood inside the Soviet Union, where unprecedented openness is being encouraged, daunting problems still face Gorbachov if he is even to approach achieving his goals.

The most urgent problem is the flagging economy. There are serious doubts that improvements of the order sought by the Kremlin can be reached without structural alterations to the centralized system, something Gorbachov has so far shown little inclination to explore. "At present, there is no sign of him doing a Hungary or a China," one expert explained. "He is still determined to try and make the existing model work as it is." Among the key questions to be answered is how the state will cope with the problem of redundancy, how pressing Soviet consumer needs will be met and how the technology gap with the West can be bridged.

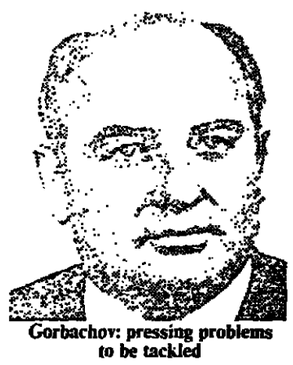
His most ambitious reform to date has been the brave attempt to cut back on alcoholism. This is rapidly reaching epidemic proportions, threatening not only industrial output and family life but also the overall health of the nation. Because of the long tradition of heavy drinking in Russia, reinforced by the bitter climate and less tangible national character, there has been scepticism among even Gorbachov's strongest supporters about his chances of success. There was also the risk that the unpopularity of the move — which earned him the nickname "lemonade Joe" — might provoke widespread resentment.

As the 2,000 journalists accredited to cover the Congress will quickly discover if they attempt to order alcohol in the special press centre, the anti-drink drive is continuing, although its results have been patchy. "Facts show that in many regions, the anti-alcohol campaign is weak," the government daily *Izvestia* reported last month.

Much more effective have been Gorbachov's unremitting efforts to weed out the nepotism, corruption and other vices which had flourished under his elderly and infirm predecessors. At the last count, he had succeeded in removing 46 out of a total of 157 regional party bosses, compared with only 15 who lost their posts during Konstantin Chernenko's leadership. In addition, almost half the 80-odd ministries and major state committees are now under new leadership.

Closer to the seat of power, Gorbachov quickly engineered the firing of his main politburo rival, Grigory Romanov ; encouraged the retirement of the octogenarian prime minister, Nikolai Tikhonov, and ensured the appointment of three loyal supporters to the politburo. In the 14 non-Russian republics, dozens of senior figures have been unceremoniously sacked, and the party chief has been changed in seven.

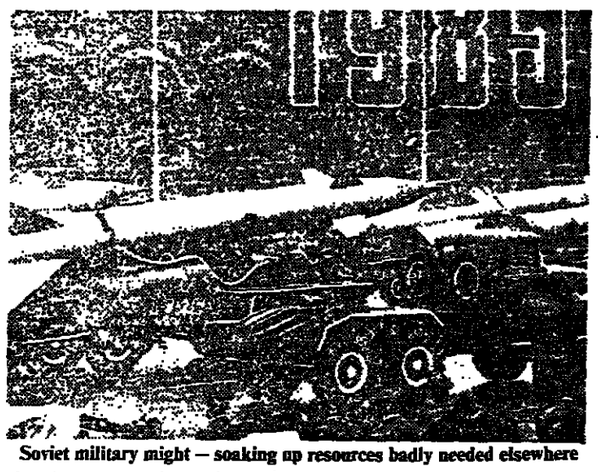
Close attention will be paid to the composition of the politburo to be elected at the finale of the Congress, and which is expected to reflect Gorbachov's tightening grip. The speed with which Gorbachov can continue to streamline the creaking administration will depend in part on how far the party's internal rules are amended during the Congress.



Gorbachov: pressing problems to be tackled



Tikhonov: one of the ousted old guard



Soviet military might — soaking up resources badly needed elsewhere

Kremlin-watchers are paying attention to two particular moves, widely publicized in the official press. One would make the 18,000,000 party members subject directly to the Soviet judicial process, rather than — as is now the practice — having the charges judged first by a closed party meeting. The other, introduced under Khrushchev, and dropped by Brezhnev, would impose strict limits on the length of time for which party officials could hold their positions.

The extent to which these two sensitive issues have been aired recently has led some officials to believe that Gorbachov is preparing to take on the entrenched and privileged middle ranks of the party, but many western observers argue that the final version of the amended rules will avoid such radical measures.

Despite the new spirit of openness and self-criticism which Gorbachov has encouraged in the Soviet media, serious doubts remain about the extent to which he will be prepared at this stage to alienate the nomenklatura, the thousands of middle-ranking officials on whom he must largely depend to carry through his proposed economic reforms.

Doubts also hang over his foreign policy programme. During his hectic first 11 months, Gorbachov has chosen to devote more attention than expected to foreign affairs — clearly demonstrating the need to divert much-needed resources away from the giant defence establishment. His growing impatience to secure an answer from the White House to his January 15 disarmament plan is believed to reflect a desire to reassure hawks in the Soviet military that the Kremlin has not been showing weakness.

With spectacular trips to India and Italy planned for later in the year, and a second summit with President Reagan — widely seen as threatening many more potential pitfalls for the Soviet leader than the first — Gorbachov will have ample opportunity to demonstrate his proven flair for international public relations. At home, however, he must convince doubters that he will succeed in securing the concessions demanded on the key issue of "star wars".

With this in mind, senior diplomats have not been surprised by the harsh line he has adopted in the tit-for-tat expulsions of British, French and Italian representatives from the Soviet capital. Few doubt that the 27th Party Congress will provide onlookers and participants alike with numerous reminders of the shrewd assessment made by the former veteran foreign minister, Andrei Gromyko , in March, 1985. "Mikhail Sergeyevich has a nice smile", he told the assembled members of the politburo, "but he also has iron teeth."

Alastair Brett

Libel lottery due for reform

What do Cecil Parkinson, Bovril, Lord Forte and Trevor Nunn have in common? All were winners in the growth industry of 1985 — High Court libel actions. Parkinson and his secretary, Mrs Angela Mathew, obtained an injunction, apologies and damages from *Private Eye* for innuendos about their relationship; Bovril won undisclosed damages over an allegation in a book, *The Food Scandal*, that its paste contained sugar; Lord Forte won damages and an apology for the suggestion that he had been rude to the former manager of the Grosvenor House Hotel; and Trevor Nunn won an apology and substantial damages along with the actress Sharon Lee Hill for the suggestion that she had obtained leading roles in *Cats* and *Blondel* because of her relationship with Nunn.

Indeed, last year was remarkable for its expensive, glittering and sometimes faintly comical actions. The longest, most expensive and most complicated was Dr Sidney Gee v Esther Rantzen and the BBC over a *That's Life* programme. On the 87th day of a hearing dogged by illness — at one time or another the judge was ill, a juryman was ill, the usher had a fit, the BBC solicitor arrived on crutches and one QC in a wheel chair — the BBC finally cracked and agreed to pay Dr Gee, a Harley Street specialist, £75,000 in damages and estimated costs of over £1 million — a record.

If the Gee case was the most expensive, what became known as the "Big Bum" action was the most extraordinary. In an unexpectedly generous moment, a jury awarded the actress Charlotte Cornwell £10,000 damages because it considered that Nina Myskow, in her "Wally of the Week" column in the *Sunday People*, had unfairly accused her of "not being able to sing", having "too big a bum", and lacking stage presence.

If the BBC felt shell-schocked, Fleet Street critics began to feel distinctly jittery post-Cornwell. Moreover, the quaint habit of allowing libel juries to decide the level of damages — rather like inviting them, rather than the judge, to pass sentence in a criminal trial — was again called into question.

Across the Atlantic, while General Westmoreland was battling it out with CBS in a $120 million libel claim over his handling of the Vietnam war, the former Israeli defence minister, Ariel Sharon, rolled into another New York court with a $50 million claim against *Time* magazine.

But the idiosyncracies of American libel laws were against him. While he was able to prove that what the magazine had said about him in relation to the massacre of PLO refugees in 1982 was untrue and defamatory, he failed to win a single cent in damages.

Had Sharon been able to bring his claim in a British court there is little doubt that he would have been laughing all the way to the bank (he has since been successful in an Israeli court), but Americans, as in most things, are different from the British. Instead of seeing the press and television as the purveyors of half-truths or downright lies, they look on their papers as the custodians of free speech and the uncoverers of iniquity, as in the Watergate scandal. The net result is that the dice are heavily loaded in favour of the press in libel actions involving matters of general public interest.

Sharon, therefore, like other public figures in the US, had an uphill struggle from the outset. Not only had he to prove he was innocent of the charges made, but also that *Time* had knowingly or recklessly lied.

In Britain, it is the newspaper or television company which must prove, in the absence of a "public interest" defence, that virtually everything it said was true, or fair comment. As a result, last year was distinctly uncomfortable for the press and the BBC, particularly for investigative journalism. But even plaintiffs suffer from the vagaries of the English jury system and the huge legal costs of fighting even a simple case.

But the media are not the only defendants in libel actions. Norman Tebbit apologized to the chairman of the Prison Officers' Association for a gaffe in a Conservative Party political broadcast, while Nigel Lawson picked up an unprecedented writ, as Chancellor of the Exchequer, for extra-parliamentary remarks about accountants Arthur Young McClelland Moore over the Johnson Matthey Bank affair. Two young Conservatives paid "undisclosed" libel damages to a member of the ruling body of CND for allegations in a leaflet that he was a communist.

Another Conservative, Jonathan Aitken, MP for Thanet South, was more successful as a libel defendant in the celebrated and somewhat comical *Dallas* case brought by Mrs Hazel Pinder-White. Early in the case Mrs Pinder-White indicated that she would like Aitken to go down on his knees in the middle of Viking Bay at Broadstairs to apologize for comparing her with Sue Ellen, the character in the TV soap opera.

The jury seem to have regarded this as excessive in the light of Aitken's previous expressions of regret and found for him. Afterwards, writing in *UK Press Gazette*, Aitken likened our libel laws to an "expensive lottery payable only in one of the world's most expensive casinos, the High Court."

Now that Aitken and fellow Conservatives have experienced our libel laws at first hand surely someone will introduce legislation to give judges, as the experts, the right to assess damages once the jury has decided that a libel has been committed and has indicated that damages should be substantial, moderate, nominal or contemptuous. Judges already award damages in personal injury actions, so why not for libel? It is the only way to remove the roulette wheel from the libel courts.

The author, a solicitor, is a legal adviser to Times Newspapers.

***moreover* . . . Miles Kington**

RIP M3, gnp and gdp

There was no change in the state of the British economy this morning. It was still in a deep coma. Doctors who had attended it during the night said it had shown no signs of life at any point. This came as no particular surprise to them, as it has not shown any signs of life for about 30 years.

Medical experts are at a loss to explain how an apparently healthy economy can remain totally without signs of life for 30 years, especially as closely related specimens in France and Germany are showing signs of good growth. It has been fed intravenously on North Sea oil and gas for the last 10 years, but if and when this runs out, the patient may become very expensive to maintain. Meanwhile, it is being inspected every day for signs of activity, but its condition is always described as "Like a very deep sleep, but much deeper than that".

"We have tried almost every known treatment there is," said head surgeon N. H. S. Porter, "but none of them has worked. Socialism, computerization, unionization, free enterprise, total neglect — you name it. We've even tried a big kick up the backside. Not a dicky bird. Frankly, I'd think the economy was dead except for the way it soaks up the old oil and gas."

They have tried playing the British economy's favourite record, *Rule Britannia*, repeatedly at its bedside. Mrs Thatcher has come around, usually to scream: "If you don't get up, I'll sell you to the Americans!" Members of the Royal Family have called by to shout: "Stop being dozy and get your finger out!" They have even brought in people like Gore Vidal to insult the British economy, but no observable reaction has yet taken place.

Nor has anyone satisfactorily explained how this happened. Some say that the shock of the Suez failure in 1956 caused a brain haemorrhage, while others think that Britain's traditions took a stranglehold and somehow cut off the blood to the brain. N. H.S. Porter thinks Britain may have taken too literally the old expression, "Export or die", and has simply decided to die.

"Or maybe it's a new kind of anorexia nervosa," he says. "Maybe the British economy is deliberately starving itself to death in order to reach such a state of emaciation that it can be mistaken for a Third World member and qualify for lots of aid from America. I think it's got a big shock coming, if that's the case. This part of the world is far too cold to be a comfortable member of the Third World."

Another unexpected theory is that some sort of astral projection is taking place. What we think is the British economy is only the lifeless shell — the *real* British economy is on a trip to another planet, or Australia, or somewhere. The main proponent of this theory, Professor Andrew Maynard, explains it thus.

"I've been reading this amazing book about astral projection, which says that if you do certain breathing exercises, you can actually become disembodied and travel tremendous distances at incredibly cheap rates. Actually I've only read the first two chapters so far, but I don't see why this shouldn't be the answer, and it certainly makes sense."

It certainly makes as much sense as any other theory. But as the coma has now continued for so long, there is a growing move to have the economy's life support system turned off and simply let it come to an end. America, Australia and other relatives privately believe that there is no further use for it and no prospect of life returning, and a complete switch-off might be the kindest thing.

"We'd be kinda sorry to see Britain go," says an American spokesman. "We'd miss all the history and old houses and such. That's why we're buying so much of the books, and paintings, and stuff now — get it out while we can. Let's hope they can get the Royal Family out before the switch-off."

Stop press: A brain scan has revealed that the mental cells of the British economy are working. Surgeons believe it is playing endless episodes of *Dynasty* to itself and not receiving any messages from the outside world.

Greek choice: bases or bankruptcy

Athens

Economic troubles at home and a gnawing concern about the Greek-Turkish military balance are forcing Andreas Papandreou, Greece's socialist prime minister, to turn to the Americans for help. Washington's price is an irrevocable commitment, not just a whispered promise, that the American bases in Greece will remain well into the next decade. Papandreou, twice elected on a platform vowing to remove all foreign bases, now seems prepared to pay this price. Can he afford it politically?

Already his domestic credibility has been eroded by the monetarist remedies he has applied to an economy crippled by runaway public deficits and total stagnation. Far from restoring business confidence, the austerity programme has alienated the left-wing trade unionists, who are now ganging up with the communists to fight the wage freeze.

Municipal elections in October could prove a strenuous popularity test for the Socialists. Papandreou would prefer to delay a pledge to the Americans until he is over that hurdle, but Washington wants to know soon whether it should modernize the bases or prepare to transfer them elsewhere: Turkey, perhaps, or Italy. George Shultz, the Secretary of State, will visit Athens next month to demand an answer.

For years Papandreou offset the political cost of his occasional U-turns with bouts of anti-Americanism which kept his left happy and hopeful. Then the Americans realized that the cumulative effect of this regular dose of poison on the Greek psyche was even more pernicious than the consequences of Papandreou's non-conformism. Now the Americans hold the strings that could spare Greece a bankruptcy, a national security hazard in the Aegean, or both.

Having muted his anti-Americanism, Papandreou tries to uphold his image by subtler forms of double talk. One is to lavish praise on the Soviet Union for its untiring efforts for world peace, without uttering a single word of censure (or praise) for the US. Another is to reassure western visitors privately of Greece's full co-operation, for instance, in combating terrorism, especially the Libyan strain, then come out publicly and commend Greece's friendship with Colonel Gadaffi.

It was fascinating to watch the downgrading of the recent visit to Athens by John Whitehead, a US deputy secretary of state. First Papandreou feigned reluctance to meet him, then gave simultaneous red carpet treatment to deputy foreign ministers from Moscow and Libya, with state television lingering on the prolonged and cordial handshake between Soviet and Greek ministers.

Greece is now co-operating closely and eagerly with the West in all forms of counter-terrorism, but Papandreou will readily proclaim that he fervently supports all national liberation struggles and his foreign minister will describe as a "poor boy" the terrorist who survived the Rome airport massacre in which, among others, four Greeks died.

Whether these contradictions can still reassure the Greek left remains to be seen. But they certainly confuse Greece's western allies. The US has therefore played it safe by sending to Athens messages of two distinct options:

- Rozanne Ridgway, Assistant Secretary of State for European affairs, flew to Athens (significantly via an American base) to dangle before Papandreou the benefits of agreeing to an American military presence beyond 1988, when the current agreement expires. She discussed joint industrial investment, easier bank loans, preservation of the military equilibrium in the Aegean and, in that context, ending the delays in US warplane sales to Greece.
- At the same time, Richard Perle, the Assistant Defence Secretary, told a Greek interviewer that if Papandreou terminated the agreement, there was no guarantee that other bilateral agreements, especially those that served Greek interests, would be renewed once they lapsed. It was a clear warning that if the bases go, Greece should expect little support from Washington. "This would bring about a fundamental change in our relationship," he said.

The US is clearly softening up the terrain for the three-day Shultz visit. It begins on March 25, Greek Independence Day. The symbolism is not lost on Papandreou's left-wing critics, who point out that any concession to the Americans would make his slogans about national independence sound hollow.

When the US-Greek bases agreement was signed in 1983, banners were strung across Greek avenues and highways proclaiming: "The bases are leaving. Our struggle is vindicated". Western diplomats in Athens seem confident that if Papandreou eventually gives in, his talent for persuasion will not fail him. "He will find," one of them said, "some elegant way of convincing the people that this is one more step towards emancipating Greece from western tutelage."

Mario Modiano

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TIMES PAST
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GOVERNMENT FOR SCHOOLS

The most significant measure of educational legislation since 1944, Sir Keith Joseph said yesterday of his new bill, the largest statutory change since the Butler Act. On the face of it that was an exaggerated comparison. The new bill leaves the shape of the school intact. It alters very little who pays teachers, who grades their work, who appoints the janitor and who comes in to mow the playing fields.

Hire and fire remain pretty firmly in the hands of the councils that are by Sir Keith's admission the guilty perpetrators of politics in education. Responsibility for disciplining and expelling pupils is made little clearer – despite that persisting offence to good school government, the "graffiti case" at Poundswick High School in Manchester.

The bill has the feel of yet another nibble at educational policy. There have been many in the past six years. No one can say that government ministers have stinted at measures. Technical and vocational educational initiative, the core curriculum, records of concrete school achievement, reformation of teacher training...it is a long and impressive list for which Sir Keith in particular often gets too little credit. He sees it bonded together as the pursuit of "standards", a cry with great resonance in the history of a Conservative Party which since the 1950s has stood by without vision or policy while collectivists and egalitarians have reshaped the secondary schools.

But for the public at large this is a mere list. Policy has come to be seen through the prism of the teachers' dispute in which the government's position has been by no means crystal clear. Sir Keith sees his list as a framework but the public – and it seems many of his own party – think policy is random. It is seen, and often correctly seen, as informed by a primordial Tory ambition to escape from the confines of the publicly-provided educational sector altogether.

It need not be that way. If this education bill had appeared seven years ago, at the outset of the administration's policy peregrination, it would indeed have merited that rather portentous comparison with R.A.Butler's chief work.

For the bill creates a context, a bed for the consummation of what ought to be schooling's happiest marriage: the natural, sometimes passionate, desire of parents for the success and achievement of their offspring and the natural, at best passionate, wish of teachers to have their pupils attain life's prizes through the fullest use of their gifts of character and mind.

That context could be the school board of governers. An entire philosophy of educational progress could have been, and might still be, built around that humble body. It could be the place where discipline is cherished - and that includes the discipline of the staffroom as well as of the playground. It could be the first court for examining teaching quality. It could be a vehicle for some first steps in endowing parents with a financial right to choose the place of their child's education, perhaps initially by giving parents the wherewithal to top up the discretionary funds that governing bodies are now to have. Governing bodies could, in other words, be a conduit for some partial but effective "voucher" scheme.

There are, unfortunately, some advocates of a voucher scheme for parents whose only motive is to facilitate the transfer from publicly-maintained schools of those able and well-motivated pupils who are the mainstay of a good school's life. Sir Keith has done less than he might to educate those in his own party who still think of educational vouchers as a panacea.

Vouchers are only a mechanism for creating space for the maximum freedom of parents to choose, and to inject into the running of schools their commitment and enthusiasm. That space is limited, for it has to be found within a common framework of examinations, curriculum, teacher training and now vocational preparation, too. The language of the bill recognizes the idea of a common educational floor, denominated in terms of money per pupil or a core curriculum; on this schools should be empowered and encouraged to build by raising money from parents and projects in order to vary and expand their teaching and activities.

Sir Keith could have been more imaginative. He might have gone much further than he has in freeing governing bodies from the shackles of council work practices. They might be allowed to contract out small jobs of repair and refurbishment on the one hand and tasks of out of hours education and supervision on the other.

The education bill 1986 is a positive measure. But it is only an instalment. Educational policy needs two things. One should come from ministers' speeches, and not just education ministers. It is vision. It is a sense of how publicly-provided schools should provide not ephemeral excellence but individual attainment – how a society which is returning to pristine regard for individual flair and energy in economic life must provide tools to hone and shape the qualities of mind and personality which will sustain those individuals when they leave childhood. Those tools are the schools and colleges.

Second, ministers cannot repeat often enough – if they are honest – that changing educational institutions will take time, a long time. There can be no overnight results from changes in the intake to teacher training or reformation of school governing bodies.

THE HILLSBOROUGH CIRCLE

Liaison between the British and Irish governments under the Anglo-Irish agreement continues to produce benefits which, like many anti-terrorist policies, cannot and will not show instant results. Tuesday's announcement by Dr Garret FitzGerald that the Republic will sign the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism (and introduce appropriate domestic legislation) may not alter extradition figures overnight, but it builds two defences against attacks which can be made against a joint intergovernmental approach to security problems.

First, it will be hard for any future government of the Republic of whatever stripe to renege on this commitment. Secondly, it will be that much harder for unionists to allege that the Republic is uninterested in catching and handing over terrorists, and that this reluctance is protected by the constitution. Mr Peter Robinson of the Democratic Unionists may counter by saying more than signatures and blarney are needed to get rid of the IRA, but he is implicitly acknowledging that the south are at least in that business - which is progress of a kind.

Next week the Prime Minister sees representatives of both unionist parties and Mr John Hume of the Social Democratic and Labour Party. The government is beginning its search for some common ground on which the local political parties can be brought together alongside the Agreement. At the moment, both sides are playing grandmothers footsteps. Unionists will not talk to anyone about devolved government while the Agreement remains in force. If there is no one to talk to, Mr Hume will not make good his general pledge to talk.

Someone has to break this circle. The heavier obligation rests on the nationalists. No matter how many times the British government stresses the even-handed guarantees affirmed at Hillsborough, the agreement is seen as having given more to nationalism than to unionism. If the SDLP wants the agreement to survive and thrive, it can only get there by helping redress that imbalance. Mr Hume has to show, publicly, that he is prepared to work in a fair, devolved government.

This week the chairman of the Northern Ireland Police Federation said that his members might find it impossible to police protests against the Agreement if the numbers ranged against them were large enough. All other considerations are liable to be swept aside if this insidious attempt to undermine the Agreement finds support. Quite apart from confirming Catholic suspicions that the Royal Ulster Constabulary is irredemably sectarian, such confrontation would provide Mr Hume with an alibi for his inaction. If the RUC wishes to continue to call itself "Royal", it had better ready itself to enforce the laws of Her Majesty's government.

Recovered sounds

From Mr S. E. Dennis

Sir, On my opening a recently purchased secondhand and pre-war book, a sheet of silver paper emerged with that delightful and characteristic tinkling rustle that one remembers produced by the unwrapping of a penny bar of Nestlé's chocolate half a century ago.

By comparison, today's aluminium foil is almost mute and unmusical.

Yours etc,
S. E. DENNIS,
7 Eldon Grove,
Hampstead, NW3.

Green belt pressures

From Mr R. W. Lewis

Sir, In recent months you have published a number of articles reflecting the increasing pressure to release more green belt land in the South-east for housing and industrial development, and illustrating the disparity between unemployment levels and house prices there and in other regions. The study of Crawley by William Greaves on February 7 (unemployment at 5 per cent the lowest in the country; over 3,000 vacancies in the local job centres; a three-bedroomed semi selling for £50,000) provided an excellent example of the conflicts which this kind of pressure can generate.

In the current free-enterprise climate there is a grave danger that green belt land will be sacrificed in the name of "job creation" before people have a chance to reflect that what has caused the present difficulties in places like Crawley is not just prosperity, but a failure to plan how such prosperity in the country as a whole can be maximised by the best use of the available resources of land and manpower.

It cannot make sense to use up the country's finite stock of agricultural land to develop factories when many hundreds of existing industrial buildings are already standing empty, or to build new housing estates to help fill local vacancies when over three million people who already have houses are crying out for a job.

To say, as Mr Greaves quotes the Chairman of Gatwick 2000 as saying, that local employers are there because Gatwick is there and it is no use telling them to move to a depressed area, is merely to underline the failure of economic planners in recent years to follow policies leading to the utilisation of the available resources of the country as a whole, not just the South-east, a failure compounded by the decision to develop Stansted as the third London airport.

The decision to go ahead with the Channel tunnel makes it all the more urgent that the Government look again at the whole question of regional planning. What is required is not a massive increase in subsidies to industry - rather a determined effort to spread to other areas the basic investment which has already created prosperity in the South-east and now threatens to overwhelm it.

After all, if the employers are in Crawley because Gatwick is there, isn't it reasonable to suppose that they wouldn't be there, and the resultant pressure on green belt land wouldn't be there, if Gatwick were somewhere else?

Yours faithfully,
ROBIN LEWIS,
Managing Director,
Physiological Instrumentation,
Whitland Abbey,
Whitland, Dyfed.

Hard to grasp

From Ms Peggy Pitt

Sir, Now that, with great thankfulness, we find that your affairs are returning to normal, I wonder whether your readers would have time to spare a thought for the old. We find that practically everything we touch, or need, it is impossible to open.

Our arch enemies are plastic bags fitted round with tight-fitting tiny girdles impossible to remove; plastic sheets swathing everything from reels of cotton to weekly magazines; and plastic totally encompassing parcels.

We wrestle with stiff, arthritic, often cold thumbs and try to press packages where it says, "Press to open", but nothing happens.

The only (fairly) sensible remedy is to carry on our persons a pair of scissors or a knife, but, as we often fall, this, too, is hazardous.

Yours faithfully,
PEGGY PITT,
The Gloving Cottage,
Wootton-by-Woodstock,
Oxfordshire.
February 11.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Oil price question over Sizewell

From the Director of the Town and Country Planning Association

Sir, At the public inquiry into the Sizewell B nuclear power station the Central Electricity Generating Board's economic case was founded on its belief that oil prices would escalate during the 1980s and 1990s. Its central projection was that the real price of heavy fuel oil (delivered and taxed) would rise by 62 per cent between 1981 and 1990 and by 141 per cent between 1981 and 2000. It also projected that international coal prices would follow suit, rising by 58 per cent and 150 per cent over the same periods.

On this basis, the board argued both that a nuclear power station would be more economic than a coal-fired station and that electricity would increase its share of the UK energy market from 13.5 per cent to 15.8 per cent between 1981 and 2000.

How different things seem now! Far from rising, the international price of oil has dropped from almost $30 a barrel in 1981 to below $20 and present indications are that it could soon fall to below $15 a barrel.

Studies carried out for the inquiry by the Cambridge Economic Research Group showed that if oil and coal prices were to remain at their 1981 levels in real terms, the economic advantage of a nuclear over a coal-fired station would disappear. With a reduction in fossil fuel prices, a coal station would become more economic.

Those of us who attended and followed the course of that long inquiry would be interested to know why the board is continuing to place orders for the Sizewell B station as if nothing had changed since it prepared its economic case in the immediate aftermath of the 1979 oil price rise. Does it still believe in the projections it made at that time?

Yours sincerely,
DAVID HALL, Director,
Town and Country Planning Association,
17 Carlton House Terrace, SW1.
February 19.

Selling of water

From Lord Nugent of Guildford

Sir, You publish today (February 14) a letter from the Chairman of the Water Authorities Association, Mr Len Hill, resisting your suggestion, in your leading article on February 10, that an independent public body should be made responsible for safeguarding environmental standards when the water authorities are privatised.

Mr Hill sees this suggestion as a major step towards splitting the existing integrated management of river basins, which has proved so beneficial in the past 12 years.

These two conflicting viewpoints vividly illustrate one of the major dilemmas posed by HM Government's proposal to privatise the water industry.

The change from the existing structure, where water authorities are appointed by ministers and responsible through them to Parliament, to a new structure, where the management is primarily responsible to private shareholders, would make a fundamental constitutional change with implications for the whole management structure. Whereas, at present, environmental safeguards and monitoring are woven into the management operation, in future these would be the responsibility of the new Director General of Water Services or a new independent environmental authority, as your leading article suggests.

In the present climate of public opinion Parliament is likely to insist on robust, independent safeguards both for public health and for the environment, in the event of privatisation. Either this will mean a major duplication of management machinery of the water authorities, or it will mean splitting off this function, as Mr Hill fears. In either case there will be an increase in cost and a loss of efficiency.

Mr Hill's suggestion of a rethink of the policy of privatisation seems apposite.

Yours faithfully,
NUGENT OF GUILDFORD,
House of Lords.
February 14.

Aid for Ethiopia

From Dr Richard Pankhurst and others

Sir, In the most recent of their repeated attacks on Ethiopia the pro-Greater Somalia Horn of Africa Council make a number of tendentious statements (February 18).

Reference to the Ethiopian Government's "armed intervention" in Eritrea, Tigre and Ogaden would lead the reader to suppose that these are foreign countries, whereas they are in fact an integral part of Ethiopia.

The statement that Soviet aircraft are "forcibly moving thousands of Eritreans and Tigreans to inhospitable regions" can scarcely be supported. The resettlement scheme here referred to does not cover Eritrea. And four times as many come from peaceful Wollo as from Tigre. It is a matter of opinion whether the arid and eroded soil of Tigre is more or less hospitable than the well watered resettlement areas of the south-west.

It is true that Ethiopia was never a British protectorate, but that would scarcely seem a reason to withhold aid from one of the poorest countries in the world.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD PANKHURST,
GERMAINE GREER,
PETER ESMONDE,
22 Lawn Road, NW3.
February 13.

Tax returns

From Mr S. A. Jones

Sir, The Chairman of the Board of Inland Revenue, Sir Lawrence Airey, should not be "shocked" at the suggestion (Diary, February 5) that the promotion prospects of his tax inspectors are measured by the amount of additional tax they bring in.

Every tax inspector engaged in accounts investigation work knows full well that his future progress in the Revenue depends almost entirely on the "results" he achieves in terms of additional cash (tax interest and penalties) falling due as a result of his intervention. Similarly, every accounts-investigation trainee is made aware that he will not be promoted to inspector on passing his examinations unless he has achieved the necessary level of "results" from the work allocated to him during his training period.

Sir Lawrence denies that inspectors are paid by commission. He must, however, be aware that inspectors at principal level and above now qualify for "merit" bonus payments – and the Revenue criteria of merit in the examination of business accounts are, 1, the yield from investigation work, and 2, the amount of additional profits brought into charge through technical adjustments in non-investigation cases.

Yours faithfully,
S. A. JONES
(former inspector of taxes),
60 The Greenway,
Epsom,
Surrey.
February 5.

Barristers' fees

From Mr F. Ashe Lincoln, QC

Sir, Your excellent editorial (February 11) on the subject of fees for the Bar, whilst cogently emphasising some of the basic features of the present controversy, failed to emphasise what is a basic fault of the system of legal aid.

Unhappily legal aid is more costly than it might be for two reasons. Firstly, it is carried on in an unbusinesslike manner and, secondly, it results in very long delays in the payment of barristers' fees. In criminal legal-aid cases a delay of between nine months and a year is not uncommon and in civil cases even longer delays are experienced.

The combination of delays of this magnitude with inadequate fees, with no interest paid on the outstanding fee and the intervening inflation, does result in hardship to the junior barrister.

There can be no doubt that the whole legal profession requires, in the public interest, a form of rationalisation. Almost all legal systems in civilised countries recognise that advocacy is the work of trained advocates. Even in the fused profession in the USA lawyers who specialise in advocacy regard themselves as "trial lawyers".

The logical consequence of this is that all litigation should be in the hands of trained advocates, that is, barristers, to whom the public should have direct access. The Law Society, in their discussion paper, recognised that there is no need in most cases for the employment of both a solicitor and a barrister. The public is entitled to receive the services of the best trained advocates.

The remedy lies in the hands of the Bar itself, which could and should abolish the restrictive practice which requires barristers to be instructed by a solicitor. The logical and economical system would be for the public to have direct access to a barrister who could, if the case required it, employ a solicitor to assist him, just as an accountant may be required to deal with accounts or indeed any other expert in particular fields.

If such a system were introduced it could cheapen litigation and provide a more efficient service. It would clearly require considerable reorganisation of the Bar and of the whole legal system, but with co-operation special arrangements could easily be made for a transition period.

Yours truly,
F. ASHE LINCOLN,
9 Kings Bench Walk,
Temple, EC4.
February 14.

Keeping a clear head in cricket

From the Reverend James Funnell

Sir, I know that it is easy to be wise after the event, but should it not be the duty of the captain or the manager of an England touring party, where there are inevitably a limited number of players, to order them all to wear a face mask when batting? Such masks are one of the few advantages of having lived through the Kerry Packer era of international cricket.

I do not imagine that any of the England players will bat against the West Indies, nor indeed any other team, without using the other kind of protector which is available to them.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES FUNNELL,
St James' House,
59a Kenninghall Road, E5.

Avoidable clashes

From Sir Reginald Murley

Sir, Contrary to what Dr Peter Slee avers in his letter (February 13) the education "crisis" (and the NHS "crisis" for that matter) is not purely a crisis of values. The 1944 Education Act and the 1946 NHS Act virtually nationalised the majority of our schools and hospitals.

If Dr Slee prefers to claim that *education* was standardised rather than nationalised, I shall not argue with him; but experience shows that nationalised schools and hospitals have become battlegrounds for both trades unions and so-called professional bodies. That is something which children and patients could have better avoided.

As for "under-funding" our schools (Mr Downes's letter of the same date), I strongly suspect that the *per caput* cost of educating a child in a State school (and also of treating a patient in a State hospital) is frequently higher than in comparable independent institutions if the central and local bureaucratic costs are included.

Yours faithfully,
REGINALD MURLEY,
Cobden Hill House,
Radlett, Hertfordshire.

Architects' image

From Mr E. Maxwell Fry

Sir, Mr Charles Knevitt, in a not unkindly article (February 7), nominates the architect as the "anti-hero" of our times. He speaks well of the social concern of the early Modern Movement and could have noted the corollary of the new towns and the then LCC revival of interest in housing and planning, in and out of the city, including the infilling rather than the needless expansion of villages in the open countryside.

Will these critics of the architect look inward to the chaotic and badly informed times which they have themselves created, to ask themselves, as the present clients of architecture, what they have done, or will do, to see the issues as clearly as our clients and we, their architects, in the years of the movement?

It is easy to make architects the scapegoats and it makes good media news. But before an architect is employed he needs a client, and if clients are bemused, uncaring, swayed by fashion or basically indifferent, what can be expected of their architects?

A client, whatever he, she, or it may be, carries a responsibility that they share with those employed, and I would like to see these responsibilities discussed with a view to the formation of well-based opinions and a movement in the body social that might guide us all in our way to a better architectural inheritance.

May I hope, Sir, that your responsible organ will initiate it?

Yours sincerely,
MAXWELL FRY,
West Lodge Cotherstone,
Barnard Castle, co Durham.

Meaningful terms

From Mr K. L. Regan

Sir, I have just been supplied with a bottle of sleeping pills.

There is a warning on the label: "These pills may cause drowsiness".

Yours faithfully,
K. L. REGAN,
16 Shelford Park,
Great Shelford, Cambridgeshire.

Staying power

From Mr T. R. Epton

Sir, Mr Arnold Butler's letter (January 16) is likely to bring forth the owner of a blade from a Greek trireme but, of more recent note, I can report that I maintain in regular use a BSA military bicycle of the twin-tube type that was developed during the Great War and remained in Service use until the Second World War and I also maintain, in "fine" condition, my new National Service boots, which are now thirty years old and to which are attached a pair of long-bladed Canadian ice skates some 70 years old.

In the sharp winter of 1963 these made the epic journey from Magdalene Bridge, Cambridge, to Grantchester and back again. I remember the occasion well because I fell over 37 times in the process.

Yours faithfully,
T.R. EPTON,
4/5 North Parade,
Bath, Avon.

Orchestra at risk

From the Chief Conductor of the BBC Symphony Orchestra

Sir, The threat, which now seems increasingly positive, to the future of the Philharmonic Hall, Liverpool (letter, February 13) is only now impressing itself on the consciousness of the music profession and the public at large.

Around the world, wherever new concert halls have been built, it has been found that the provision of proper concert facilities in itself *creates* a public eager and adaptable to regular attendance at symphony concerts.

In this country we have always taken it for granted that at least the large centres of population will be provided with halls of varying capacities and architectural distinction, where a "resident" symphony orchestra can perform (and, what is equally important, rehearse).

Among these halls the Philharmonic in Liverpool has for many years been a distinguished centre for music: it seems almost unbelievable that the vagaries of politics can menace the existence of the hall, and indeed the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra itself. Can some prominent influential person, or organisation, help us to channel effort on all sides to avert this calamity?

Yours sincerely,
JOHN PRITCHARD,
Chief Conductor,
BBC Symphony Orchestra,
Delaware Road, Maida Vale, W9.

Seen along the line

From Mr J. Pickard

Sir, Dr Fursdon (February 12) is right to cherish nostalgic feelings about the absence of the lonely and hardworking scarecrow.

I suspect that it is also sorely missed by some members of the animal kingdom as well: the one recently erected in a field adjacent to my house is at the moment providing invaluable shelter from the east wind for a family of shivering pheasants.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES PICKARD,
Scarletts Cottage,
Scarletts Lane,
Hare Hatch,
Nr Twyford,
Berkshire.
February 12.

ON THIS DAY

FEBRUARY 21 1855

"On this Day" January 27 noted how The Times *compelled the Aberdeen government to resign during the war in the Crimea. As the leading article below shows, the paper continued in its campaign against the conduct of the war, in particular the incompetence displayed by the British commanders in the field. Lord Raglan, the commander-in-chief, was the main target. He narrowly missed being censured in the Commons and his recall seemed inevitable; only his death in June prevented that humiliation.*

[Failures in the Crimea]

The causes to which the failure of our recent military operations in the Crimea have been attributed are manifold. Every speaker or commentator, in Parliament or out of it, examines the subject by the light of his own previous ideas or prepossessions. According to one, the doctors have been to blame: according to another, the transport service. A third will tell you that all Lord Raglan, humanly speaking, could be expected to accomplish was to keep a register of the thermometric changes in the neighbourhood of Balaklava amid the corpses of his former legions. A fourth will have it that the Duke of Newcastle was bound not only to remit stores to Balaklava harbour, but to take such precautions that the unfortunate men for whose use they were intended might have reaped the benefit of his labours and his foresight. The aristocratic character of our service did all the mischief - or the disproportionate partition of the work - or the crass incapacity of the motley Staff - or, finally, the inclemency of the seasons and the act of God. We believe that the disappearance of the British forces lately in leagues before Sebastopol is due to this one cause, which embraces all others, - that there has not been a single man in the high commands either at home or in the Crimea who was a master of the Art Of War... A blue riband athwart the breast does not make a man a councillor, any more than a red coat and a decoration or two will imply talents for high military command... Whatever Lord Raglan may have been in subordinate commands under the orders of the Duke of Wellington, forty years have elapsed since he obtained his distinctions; and, unfortunately, it is more easy to forget than to acquire. There is no suggestion that our War Ministers at home, either recent or present, ever learned their trade; or, indeed - save we except Lord Panmure's peaceful service at the War-office, - that they ever had an opportunity of learning it. When the whole chapter of prevarication, shuffling, excuse, and declamation against everybody who has dared to censure their acts has been exhausted, it is impossible to extract from it any valid argument in favour of those who despatched a large British force upon an expedition against a formidable fortress in the autumn without having provided for the contingency of a winter campaign. It was surely on the cards that the walls of Sebastopol might not fall down as the walls of Jericho fell of old before the blast of horn and trumpet, and, if the meditated assault was to be converted into a siege, surely the troops engaged in it must be victualled, lodged, and clothed in some form or other. This is what was *not* done... The probability is, that had a corporal's guard from the Coldstreams been directed against the windmill on Wimbledon common, and had it been so handled, the corporal and his men would have perished by a fate similar to that of the late British army before Sebastopol...

Can any conduct be more worthy of admiration than that of the British soldier, true and faithful even unto death in the flooded trenches and on the chill bivouac? Alas for that burning but misdirected courage! Alas for that touching but useless fortitude! The one and the other are equally thrown away, or serve but to add to the enduring indignation with which every man must think of so dismal a tragedy as the one before Sebastopol... Generals who do not understand the art of war must be employed, and those who do understand the art of war must not be employed...

COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

February 20: The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, Honorary Associate of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, this afternoon gave the Keith Entwistle Memorial Lecture at the Department of Clinical Veterinary Medicine, Cambridge.

Her Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Cambridgeshire (Mr Michael Bevan) and the Professor of Animal Pathology and Head of the Department (Professor E. Soulsby).

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, President of the Save the Children Fund, this evening attended a Cambridge Union Society Charity Debate in aid of the Save the Children Fund at The Union Society, Cambridge, where Her Royal Highness was received by the Master of St John's College (Professor F. Hinsley).

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, attended by the Hon Mrs Legge Bourke, travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

CLARENCE HOUSE

February 20: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother today visited the Offices of *Horse and Hound* at King's Reach Tower, SE1.

Lady Jean Rankin and Sir Martin Gilliat were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE

February 20: The Princess of Wales this morning opened the new library of the British Medical Association at BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1.

Mrs George West and Lieutenant-Commander Richard Aylard, RN were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE

February 20: The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon opened the Paradise Circus Complex, Birmingham, and in the evening attended a concert given in the Sir Adrian Boult Hall, Birmingham.

Her Royal Highness travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

Mrs Howard Page was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE

February 20: The Duke of Kent, President of the Royal Television Society, this evening presented the Television Journalism Awards at the Dorchester Hotel, London W1.

Captain Michael Campbell-Lamerton was in attendance.

The Duchess of Kent, Patron, today visited the Putney Branch of the Samaritans.

Mrs Peter Wilmot-Sitwell was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE

February 20: Princess Alexandra, as Patron of the Mental Health Foundation, this evening attended a special screening of the Thames Television series *Someone To Talk To* at 149 Tottenham Court Road, London W1.

Lady Mary Fitzalan-Howard was in attendance.

The Prince of Wales, President of the Prince's Trust, accompanied by the Princess of Wales, will attend a concert at the Albert Hall, on March 8, in aid of the trust.

Princess Anne, President of the Save the Children Fund, will attend the launch of *South*, the Third World magazine's appeal at New Zealand House, Haymarket, on March 10.

A memorial service for Air Commodore J.M. Birkin will be held at St Clement Dane's today at noon.

Lady Emma Humfrey gave birth to a son in London on Monday.

A memorial service for Professor Malcolm Dixon, honorary fellow of King's College and emeritus professor of enzyme biochemisty, will be held during evensong on Saturday, March 8, in the Chapel of King's College, Cambridge, at 5.30pm.

Viscount and Viscountess Lambert regret that they were unable to attend the memorial service for Viscount Daventry at St Margaret's, Westminster held yesterday at noon.

Receptions

Hosanna House Appeal
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies, were present at a reception held at the Mansion House last night to promote a £1 million appeal to improve and extend facilities for the handicapped at Hosanna House in Bartres, Lourdes, France. Mr John Smith, Chairman of the Appeal Council, was host.

Institute of Journalists
The Institute of Journalists held a reception at the Royal Scottish Corporation, Covent Garden, last night, to mark the installation of Mr Rodney Bennett-England as president for the coming year.

Service Luncheon

1928 Rodney Term
A reunion luncheon of the 1928 Rodney Term at the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, was held at Clothworkers' Hall yesterday.

Service Dinner

Headquarters RAF Support Command
Air Marshal Sir John Sutton, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, and member of Brampton Park Officers' Mess held a dinner at HQ RAF Support Command, Brampton, last night. The principal guests were Air Commodore D.M. Reader and Mr A.S. Kennedy, Group Captain M.G. Coggins presided.

Dinners

Management Consultants Association
Mr John Lidstone, chairman, and council members of the Management Consultants Association were hosts at a dinner given for Mr Victor Paige, Chairman of the NHS Management Board, at the Cavalry and Guards Club on February 19, 1986.

Association of Lancastrians in London
The Association of Lancastrians in London held its annual City dinner at the City Livery Club last night. Judge Abdela, QC, president, was in the chair, and Judge Pigot, QC, Common Serjeant in the City of London and vice-president, was the speaker.

National House-Building Council
Mr John Patten, MP, Minister for Housing, Urban Affairs and Construction, was the guest of honour at a dinner given by the National House-Building Council at the Inn on the Park last night to present the UK Pride in the Job awards. Mr Andrew Tait, chairman, and Mr Basil Bean, director-general, were among those who spoke.

Cambridge Union Society
Princess Anne was present at a dinner given by the President of the Cambridge Union at St John's College, Cambridge, last night. Among those present were the Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, the Master of St John's College, the President of St John's College, the Hon Greville Janner, QC, MP, the Hon Mrs Legge-Bourke, Mr Nicholas Parsons, Mr Simon Bates, Mr Christopher Steele, Mr Sanjay Srivatsa, Mr Jonathan Young, Mr Phillip Greenwood, Mr Nigel Hancock and the Rev James Owen. A charity debate was held afterwards in aid of the Save the Children Fund at which Princess Anne received honorary membership of the society.

Association of Consulting Engineers
Mr K.W. Whimster, Chairman of the Association of Consulting Engineers, presided at the association's annual dinner held last night at the Hilton hotel, Park Lane. He responded to the toast to the association made by Lord Young of Graffham, Secretary of State for Employment and Lord Howie of Troon replied to the toast to the guests.

Sale Room

Irish 'Mona Lisa' a genuine article

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Christie's sold the "Mona Lisa" for £21,600 (estimate £4,000–£6,000) yesterday. Admiring artists have copied Leonardo's masterpiece through the centuries and this was a genuinely old copy.

It had appeared in a Dublin exhibition as the work of Bellini, a fanciful attribution which could only be dreamed up in Ireland. Christie's thought that it might date from the seventeenth century.

It was the third Old Master painting sale of the week and again met a buoyant market. The top price was £54,000 (estimate £7,000–£10,000) paid by J van Haeften, a London dealer, for a snalit townscape, "The Courtyard of the Binnenhof, the Hague", attributed to Gerrit Adriaensz Berckheyde. The sale totalled £791,931, with 18 per cent unsold.

At Sotheby's, a sale of Japanese netsuke, the intricate carvings used to attach pouches to the belt, proved enormously popular with strong contingents of buyers from France, Belgium, the Netherlands, West Germany and the United States.

The top prices were for the classic Kyoto school of carvers of the mid to late eighteenth century. A fine ivory study of a mythical beast called a kirin, by Tomotada, sold for £19,800 (estimate £15,000–£16,000) to Eskenazi, the London dealer, and a Masanao wooden carving of a rat with pricked ears and a tail curled beneath him made £14,300 (estimate £8,000–£10,000) to a private collector.

The netsuke figures of the mid nineteenth century Tokyo school are plentiful and not usually sought after, but they were making strong prices. A plump little man sitting cross-legged with a happy smile by Yasuaki made £880 (estimate £550–£650).

Collecting first editions of great literary works was high fashion in the 1930s but has attracted little attention since. There were signs at Bloomsbury book auctions yesterday that the taste may be returning.

Dickens went far beyond estimate; a first edition of *Nicholas Nickleby* in its original parts made £1,155 (estimate £400–£500) and *David Copperfield* made £1,430 (estimate £700–£900). Jane Austen was not far behind with a first edition of *Mansfield Park* at £990 (estimate £500–£700), followed by Northanger Abbey with *Persuasion* at £550 (estimate £250–£350).

Modern authors were also in favour with a first edition of Graham Greene's *The Power and The Glory* at £286 (estimate £100–£150) and Dashiell Hammett's classic detective story, *The Maltese Falcon*, at £231 (estimate £75–£100). The sale of printed books made £37,995.

Japanese and German dealers made the running in Phillips' highly successful sale of musical instruments. The top price of £7,480 (estimate £3,000–£5,000) was paid by Henry Blum of Stuttgart for an eighteenth century violin by Vincenzo Panormo in Dublin. The sale totalled £82,100, with two per cent left unsold.

Sotheby's sale of watches and clocks saw prices picking up for pocket watches after a difficult period, and very strong prices for top quality wrist watches.

An Australian collector broke off a bridge game to bid £4,180 (estimate £2,000–£3,000) on the telephone for an 18 carat gold 1925 Patek Philippe wristwatch. The top price was £23,000 (estimate £17,000–£20,000) for a 1912 keyless tourbillon by Charles Frodsham, a much sought after maker. The sale made £229,284, with 16 per cent unsold.

Birthdays today

Mr Humphry Berkeley, 60; Professor Ruth Bowden, 71; Sir Colville Deverell, 79; Mr Patrick Duff, 85; Mr Leslie Durbin, 73; Mr Carron Greig, 61; Dr H. MacL. Havergal, 84; Sir Conrad Heron, 70; Sir Reginald Hibbert, 64; Sir John McGregor Hill, 65; Lord Hunter, 73; Professor Israel Levine, 93; Professor Sir Rupert Myers, 65; Sir Alan Orr, 75; Sir Ashley Ponsonby, 65; Lieutenant-General Sir John Richards, 59; Professor F.W. Rimmer, 72; Mr Andres Segovia, 93; Sir Rex Surridge, 87; Mr Richard Turner-Warwick, 61.

Fan Makers' Company

The following have been elected officers of the Fan Makers' Company for the ensuing year: Master, Mr Michael S. Ross Collins; Free Warden, Mr R.A. Pollitt; Foreign Warden, Mr P.G. Bird; Clerk, Mr Roger Southcombe.

Environmental Cleaners' Company

The following have been elected officers of the Environmental Cleaners' Company for the ensuing year: Master, Lady Porter; Senior Warden, Mr A. Brian Barclay; Junior Warden, Mr Alan Berry; Clerk, Mr Arthur Green.

Marriage

Mr P.C.P. Pryse-Hawkins and Miss A.N.B. Congreve
The marriage took place on February 15 at the Guild Church of St Benet, EC4, of Mr Christopher Pryse-Hawkins, elder son of the Rev A. and Mrs Pryse-Hawkins, of London, and Miss Anna Congreve, daughter of Dr G. Congreve, of Moncton, N.B. Canada, and Mrs P. Congreve, of London.

The father of the bridegroom officiated.

University news

London
The following have been elected to the fellowship of the Imperial College of Science and Technology:
Sir Geoffrey Allen, FRS, Director of research and engineering, Unilever; Emeritus Professor B. G. Neal, FEng, formerly of Imperial College; Baroness Warnock, Mistress of Girton College, Cambridge; Sir Toby Weaver, Governor of Imperial College; and Professor Dorothy Wedderburn, Principal of the Royal Holloway and Bedford New College, London University.

Mr Henry J.Humberstone, formerly foreman drain cleaner at Imperial College, has been elected to an associateship of the college.

Liverpool
Dr Nicholas John Kusznir, lecturer in geophysics at Keele University, has been appointed to the chair of geophysics.

The title of visiting professor has been conferred on Dr J.Barrie Ward, director of the microbiology division at Glaxo Group Research, Greenford, London.



Mr Gert Hageman, a Dutch nurseryman, inspecting a black tulip which has taken 10 years to perfect. The Friesland Flower Institute said the bloom was a cross between the Queen of the Night and the Viennese Waltz.

Cranwell graduations

Air Vice-Marshal D.W. Richardson, Air Officer Engineering, Strike Command, was the reviewing officer when 99 officers of No 90 initial officer training course graduated from the Royal Air Force College Cranwell this month. The Flying Training School, Cranwell provided the fly-past.

SASH OF MERIT: Pilot Officer J Good BSc WRAF.
HENNESSY TROPHY AND PHILLIP SASSOON MEMORIAL PRIZE: Flying Officer K Collister BSc.
BRITISH AIRCRAFT CORPORATION TROPHY: Flying Officer J M Wilson BSc.

GRADUATING OFFICERS OF NO 90 INITIAL OFFICER TRAINING COURSE
General Duties Branch (Pilot): Flight Lieutenants G G M Harwell BSc, P D Hutchison BSc, Flying Officers D R Clarns MA, S D Chick BSc, K Collister BSc, R A Dalton BSc, G De La Cour BSc, J A Emlage BSc, A C Hill BSc, A Monahan BSc, M J Murphy BA, N M Smorthit BSc, J M Wilson BSc.
Pilot Officers I Cameron BSc, G Clarke BSc, M O'Connal BSc, M P Cousins BSc, W D P Haigh BSc, S J Hayler BSc, D E Holmes BA, J E May BEng, K J McCarry BSc, S C Paish BA, D V Scott BSc, M J Shuiver BSc, P J Siddall BSc, M D Warren BSc, S Warren-Smith BA, R A H Watson BA.
Acting Pilot Officers A H Bridger, M H G Carver, G C Cook, C J Fox, B H Hedley, S E Horwood, R I Kanhai, R M J MacCormac, W P Munro, D G Phillips, A W Robinson, J J Spencer, A M Trimmer, G M Waterfall, D M B Williams, R A Wilson, D J Withington.
General Duties Branch (Navigator): Pilot Officers D S Lacey BSc, R A McCormick BSc, R H Perrins BSc, A H Rodgers BSc, J Taylor BSc, A G Thomas BSc, P D Thomas BSc, Acting Pilot Officers B M Edmondson, S C Morris.
General Duties Branch (Air Electronics officer): Flying Officer M P Hammans.
General Duties Branch (Air Engineer): Flying Officers R E Lawton, R J Young.
General Duties Branch (Ground-Fighter Control): Pilot Officer J A Humans BSc, WRAF. Acting Pilot Officers C S Beard WRAF, I M Keyte.
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Engineer Branch: Flight Lieutenant P C Emmett PhD, Flying Officers A W Balderstone BEng, M J Broomer, R J Grattmer BSc, K W M Hill BSc, R J Manser, P J R McGeough, B P Mercer BSc, G H Parker BA, J Spanswick BSc WRAF, A G Tait BSc, G Webb BSc. Pilot Officers D Kirk BSc, I L Kirkwood BSc, M T Powell BSc.
Supply Branch: Pilot Officers J Brotherhood BA, A Stockshaw BA WRAF, A J Davison BSc, A P Gorton. Acting Pilot Officer R H Stobart.
Administrative Branch (Secretarial): Flying Officer H Stevens MA, Pilot Officer G J Foy BSc WRAF, Pilot Officer C L Smith BA WRAF. Acting Pilot Officer P A Martin.
Administrative Branch (Education): Flight Lieutenants J M Kilbey BSc, M Wilkinson BA. Flying Officers S M Lindsay BSc, S R Telfer-Smith BSc, L Calvert BA, W Warren BSc.
Administrative Branch (Physical Education): Pilot Officer S M Bunce BEd.
Administrative Branch (Catering): Pilot Officers J Good BSc WRAF, D L Morris BA.
Security Branch (Regiment): Pilot Officer C R Smith BA.
Medical Branch (Medical Secretarial): Flying Officer N J Quincey.

Memorial Service

Viscount Daventry
The Speaker was represented by Sir Paul Dean, MP, Deputy Speaker, at a memorial service for Viscount Daventry held at St Margaret's, Westminster, yesterday. Canon Trevor Beeson officiated. Mr Charles Musker, grandson, read the lesson, and the Hon Mrs Amelia Jessel, daughter, read "A Dream of Sleep" by Olivia FitzRoy. Commander Sir Michael Culme-Seymour gave an address. Lord Home of the Hirsel attended. Among those present were:

Colonel Peter and the Hon Mrs Ormrod (son-in-law and daughter), Mrs Charles Musker, Mrs B Murray Threipland, Mrs F McIntyre, Mr Oliver Musker and Mrs Rory Musker, Mr and Mrs Julian Holloway and Miss Alice Ormrod (grandchildren), Mr Dermot Musker, Mr Alexander Murray Threipland, Miss Cassica Murray Threipland, Miss Zoe McIntyre and Mr Simon McIntyre (great grandchildren), Viscount and Viscountess Daventry, Mr James FitzRoy, Miss Joanna FitzRoy, Mrs J Allfrey, the Duke and Duchess of Grafton, the Earl of Euston, Lord and Lady Edward FitzRoy, Major Colin and Lady Anne Mackenzie, Mrs D Remington-Hobbs, Mr and Mrs Richard Jessel, Sir Geoffrey and Lady Bates, Miss Celina Bates.

The Earl and Countess of Yarborough, the Earl and Countess of Effingham, the Earl of Orkney, the Earl of Cork and Orrery, the Earl of Dundee, Viscount Ward, of Witley, Lord Ralph and Lady Virginia Kerr, Lord Boyd-Carpenter (also representing The Association of Conservative Peers and The Carlton Club), Lord Rankeillour, Lord Swansea, Lord Broughton and Vaux, Lord Harvington, Lord Constantine of Stanmore, Cordelia Lady Greenway, Lord and Lady Penrhyn, Patricia Lady Norrie, Lady Douglas-Pennant, Lord Vivian, Lord Mancroft, Lord Campbell of Alloway, QC, Lord McAlpine of Moffat, Lord Alvedale, Lord Kenyon, the Hon Nigel Dodding, Pennant, the Hon Mrs Archibald Hamilton, the Hon David Bigham, Sir Irvine Goulding.

Wing-Commander Patrick and Mrs Patrick, Dr and Mrs R T Mayon-White, Major John Allfrey, Mrs S Wall with Tom Wall and Rosalind Wall, Mr Mark Farrer (Farrer and Company), the Rev Gordon Taylor, Miss A Strong, Mr J Kelly, Miss Virginia Johnstone, Mrs Trevalyn Napier, Mrs Alistair Robinson, Mr Gordon Bradley with Mr James Bradley, Mr Christopher Watson, Captain P Hennessy, Mr Robert Jaspert, Mr Stan Coleman, Colonel J Coyne, Mr George Hampton, Prince and Princess Alexander Croy, Mr Julian de Lisle, Miss M P Culme-Seymour, Mr David Ramsay, Commander Peter Norton, Mr Gregory Milnes, Mr B Black, Mrs Rachel Bishop, Mr Raymond Grundon, Mr Iain H Birkbeck, Miss Elizabeth Speir, Mrs Phillip Goodall, Mrs Felix Johnstone, Mr Alistair Saunders, Miss Caroline Barkes, Major and Mrs Jeremy White, Mr Leslie Cohen, Brigadier Ralph Sampson, Dr and Mrs J Roxburgh, Miss B Hurrell, Mr Miles Napier, Miss Jane Egerton-Warburton, Mr Rupert Hodgings, Lieutenant-Commander Nowell Cabin, Mrs John Charrington and Miss Lilah Fortescue.

Colonel G L Aspell (chairman, Trustees of Uppingham School), Mr Anthony Prendergast.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A.M.D. Havelock-Allan and Miss A.L.C. Foster
The engagement is announced between Anthony Mark David, son of Sir Anthony Havelock-Allan, Bt, and Mrs John Profumo, and Alison Lee Caroline, daughter of the late Mr Leslie F. Foster and of Mrs Foster. The marriage will take place quietly in May.

Mr J.J. Bacon and Miss C.L. Trafford
The engagement is announced between Julian John, youngest son of Mr and Mrs G.C.D. Bacon, of Hill House, Enford, Wiltshire, and Claire Louise, only daughter of Mr and Mrs R.H. Trafford, of Mount Howe, Topsham, Devon.

Mr R.H.Emary and Miss C.E. Ryan
The engagement is announced between Richard, younger son of the late Mr Cyril Emary and Mrs Joyce Emary, of Hooe, Battle, Sussex, and Clare, only daughter of Mrs U.C. Ryan, of Lanzarote, and Cranbrook, Kent.

Mr N. Grainger-Smith and Miss D.C. Middleton
The engagement is announced between Neil, son of Mr T. Grainger-Smith and the late Mrs P. Grainger-Smith, of Broombill, Glasgow, and Denise, daughter of Mr R. Middleton and the late Mrs P. Middleton, of Preston, Rutland.

Mr C.S. Griffin and Miss P.J. Folkes
The engagement is announced between Carl Stephen, son of Mr Derek Griffin, Bovingdon, Wordsley, West Midlands, and Mrs June A. Griffin, The White House, Stourbridge, West Midlands, and Patricia Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs John H. Folkes, Tresco, Port Erin, Isle of Man.

Mr M.J. Hill and Miss C.A. Hunt
The engagement is announced between Michael, elder son of Mr and Mrs A.J. Hill, of Brighton, Sussex, and Catherine, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs J.H. Hunt, of Kenley, Surrey.

Mr J.R.A. Livingstone and Miss K. Hill-Smith
The engagement is announced between Julian, eldest son of Mr and Mrs M.G. Livingstone, of Godden Green, Sevenoaks, and Katie, second daughter of Mr and Mrs R. Hill-Smith, of Goddards, Widford, Hertfordshire.

Mr J.F. McCulloch and Miss J.C. Williams
The engagement is announced between James, son of Mrs Ann McCulloch and the late Mr Max McCulloch, of Melton Ross, Lincolnshire, and Joanne, younger daughter of Dr and Mrs Brian Williams, of Sneyd Park, Bristol.

Mr T. Maunder and Miss D. Davies
The engagement is announced between Timothy, only son of Mrs Kathleen Maunder and the late Mr Sydney Maunder, of Smithfield Road, Street, Somerset, and Deborah, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs David Davies, of "Brookside", Llanwarne, Herefordshire.

Dr W.R. Neilson and Miss F.C.D. Simpson
The engagement is announced between William Roberts, younger son of Mr and Mrs W. Neilson, of Maidstone, Kent, and Fiona Caroline Done, elder daughter of Commander and Mrs Alex Simpson, of Woollahra, Sydney.

Mr D.G. Padley and Miss M.E. Porter
The engagement is announced between David George, elder son of Mr and Mrs G.W. Padley, of Eslaforde House, East Road, Sleaford, Lincolnshire, and Maxine Elizabeth, only daughter of Mr and Mrs J.E. Porter, of Barn Farm, Lowfields, Navenby, Lincoln.

OBITUARY

SIR RONALD WATES

Prominent figure in the building industry



Sir Ronald Wates, FRICS, who died on January 25, aged 78, was President of Wates, one of the few remaining family-owned building firms of size in Britain.

Born on June 4, 1907, Ronald Wallace Wates joined the company as a trainee on leaving Emanuel School in 1925, becoming a director in 1928, chairman in 1969, and president in 1973.

During that period, with his brothers, Norman and Allan, he played a major part in the progress of the firm from an early (and surviving) interest in house-building, to one of large scale developments, mainly in London. Such a scheme was their own headquarters in Streatham, designed by Maxwell Fry.

Wates carried out much work of high priority during the Second World War, including the development and construction of the floating sections of the Mulberry harbours, which formed an integral part of the Normandy landings of 1944.

Besides his involvement in the House Builders' Federation, Wates was active in many fields on the industry's fringe, among them the Historic Churches Preservation Trust (of which he was a trustee and member of council), the Church Commissioners' Committee on Redundant Churches, the London and South-eastern regional advisory committee of the Land Commission (chairman from 1967 until the committee's dissolution) and the Brixton School of Building (now the Polytechnic of the South Bank), of which he was a governor.

As a member of the Council of Guildford Cathedral, he helped to pay for the building of the chapter house.

In 1965 he established, with his brothers, the Wates Foundation which for more than 20 years has helped many charities.

He was appointed a JP for the county of London in 1947 and was active in local government as a member of Wandsworth Borough Council from 1937-46, a borough which he represented on the London County Council from 1949-52.

Created a knight bachelor in 1975, Wates was an honorary fellow of University College London and a foundation fellow of Surrey University. He was made a deputy lieutenant for Surrey in 1981.

Wates found relaxation in field sports, riding to hounds with the Surrey and Burstow Hunt until he was aged 70.

He married in 1931 Phyllis Trace; they had four sons.

HOWARD DA SILVA

Howard Da Silva, the American actor, director, playwright and theatrical manager, has died in Ossining, New York, aged 76.

He was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on May 4, 1909, and educated at the Carnegie Institute of Technology, which he left to go on the stage. In 1929 he played his first role, that of the actor in Gorki's *The Lower Depths*, at the Civic Repertory Theatre.

He stayed there for 15 years, playing such roles as the White Knight in *Alice in Wonderland*, his favourite. He appeared in a wide range of American and foreign plays, from Shakespeare to Chekhov and Brecht.

While acting at the Cleveland Playhouse in 1935, Da Silva directed his first production, the radical one-act play, *Waiting for Lefty*, by Clifford Odets, at the Cleveland People's Theatre.

His independence of mind explained his penchant for radical dramatists such as Odets (he appeared in the Group Theatre's *Golden Boy* on Broadway in 1937), and other socio-critical works, such as *Abe Lincoln in Illinois* (1939), in the RKO film version of which he was to appear in 1940, Elmer Rice's *Two On An Island*, and *Oklahoma!*, in the world premiere of which he played Jud (1943).

Later he was to appear in *Fiorello!* (1959), *Hamlet* (1964) as Claudius and, as Benjamin Franklin, in *1776* (1969).

Other directing successes were *Proud Accents* at the Hollywood Actors' Lab (1949), *Purlie Victorious* on Broadway in 1961, *The Cradle will Rock* (1947) and *The World of Sholom Aleichem* (1953), in both of which he also acted.

His recitals of Mark Twain, Sholom Aleichem and Chekhov were especially popular. He co-authored and played in several plays, of lesser note, though his own play, *Zulu and the Zayda* (1965), based on a story by Dan Jacobson, and set in South Africa, was the touching tale of an elderly Jew and his black manservant.

His film and TV careers date from 1936. He will be remembered for his roles in both versions of *The Great Gatsby* (1949 and 1974) and *The Outcast* (1964), as well as in *The Lost Weekend* and *Two Years Before The Mast*, that won him two nominations for Academy Awards.

JUDGE GEORGE MILNER

His Honour Judge George Milner died on February 14, aged 59.

Born on January 11, 1927, he was educated at Tadcaster Grammar School and Selwyn College, Cambridge. After two years in the navy he was called to the Bar in 1951 by Lincoln's Inn.

He became a pupil of Mr (later Judge) Gilbert Leslie in Sheffield, and remained for the whole of his career at the Bar in the same chambers, where he built up a good practice which increased when he succeeded to Leslie's coalmine work.

In 1972 he was one of the first counsel to be appointed a recorder of the crown court, and two years later he became a circuit judge.

He had arranged to move to Devon from County Durham, where he sat in the crown and county courts, and on February 14 was about to sit for the last time in the North, when he collapsed and died at the Stockton County Court.

He leaves a widow and two sons.

Barbara Lady Buchanan, widow of Sir Charles Buchanan, Bt, died on February 10. She was the daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel the Right Hon Sir George Stanley and Lady Beatrix Taylour and was married in 1932. Her husband died in 1984.

She was a past President of the Notts branch of the British Red Cross.

Science report

Wheat grains in Sweden's petrol

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

In spite of the publicized use of sugar cane in Brazil as a raw material for the production of motor fuel, the economics of growing crops for industrial purposes is generally dismissed as uneconomic.

Conventional wisdom is that energy input in the form of machinery, fertilizers and pesticides is almost certain to exceed the value of the output. Grain, for example, could not be sold profitably at a price that would compete with that of fossil fuels.

In Sweden, however, a plant producing ethanol from wheat has been operating on the shores of Lake Vanern for over a year. Some 50 garages in the Stockholm area are selling petrol which contains 6 per cent wheat-based ethanol.

The attraction of ethanol is that it improves the octane rating of petrol, and so reduces the need for lead additives. A progressive reduction in lead additives is the subject of EEC legislation, which Britain is pledged to follow.

Even without the stimulus of EEC support prices, Sweden shares the same problem of surplus grain production. In 1984 the wheat harvest was some seven million tonnes, leaving a surplus for disposal of nearly two million tonnes.

The ethanol plant can hardly be said to have made much of a dent in the mountain. Its present capacity is 30,000 tonnes of wheat a year, from which it produces 6,000 cubic metres of ethanol, and plans to build a larger plant with a 150,000 tonne capacity have been shelved. Although the operation makes a small profit, the return is not large enough to repay the capital investment.

Tumbling oil prices have further reduced the prospects for industrial crops in the immediate future. But the Swedish plant also produces a number of marketable byproducts, including carbon dioxide, starch and a high protein animal feed, and the combination could in due course attract greater interest.

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THE ARTS

Television

Cynical courtier all in a myth

There are two types of British television comedy, one which assumes that the audience has the educational attainment of a South American sloth, and the other which assumes that the audience has been so chronically over-educated that it will howl with relief at any device which employs the consequent surfeit of facts usefully. *Blackadder II* (BBC1) falls into the latter category.

It is an extended joke about the first Elizabethan Age, a period which many young Britons were forced to study twice over, first under the pretext of history and then under that of Shakespeare.

Someone without this level of sophistication would find nothing amusing in the sight of Gloriana's pendent pearl earrings swinging with histrionic abandon, or in the spectacle of actors in puffy shorts striking poetic attitudes while discussing each other's insecurities. The comedy derives from dressing contemporary attitudes in Elizabethan finery and satirizing the Errol Flynn heroics which Hollywood added to this period's mythology.

In last night's episode the hero, Sir Edmund Blackadder (Rowan Atkinson), has clearly progressed from the character of a double-dyed villain in which he made his first appearance. He is now merely a rather sardonic courtier, who was ransomed from the clutches of a more genuine evil-doer, Ludwig the Indestructible, by his simpering monarch. This was the second series of his adventures and there seems plenty of mileage remaining in the idea.

Yes, Prime Minister (BBC2) is a comedy in a class of its own, in that it presumes that its audience is already well educated and able to stand an even greater information overload. Last night's episode concerned the appointment of a new bishop, and had Paul Eddington and Nigel Hawthorne briskly filling in the audience on the appropriate constitutional practice in the kind of exchange which is usually restricted to the recap sequences in American soap opera.

With the numbers thus outlined, the colours could be applied to achieve the normal picture of Sir Humphrey's Machiavellian manoeuvres to achieve his own ends. Statistics were carelessly tossed around, suggesting that the Church of England administers assets of £1.6 billion, and that the job specification was less for a spiritual leader than a corporate executive.

There was a supposition that the information conveyed about the practice of government is correct, but the information given about the theory behind that practice was not to be taken seriously. "Theology is a device for enabling agnostics to stay in the Church", explained Sir Humphrey. "The history of the world is the history of the triumph of the heartless over the mindless", he announced.

At last a suitable man — closely resembling Terry Waite — was chosen but there was still doubt that he was too eccentric. "It's one of those irregular verbs", the junior civil servant observed: "I have an independent mind, you are eccentric, he is round the twist."

Celia Brayfield

Cinema: Geoff Brown reviews new releases in London, David Robinson at the Berlinale

Touching achievement for an industry in peril

Year of the Quiet Sun (15)
ICA

Crazy Family (18)
Metro 1

Agnes of God (15)
Odeon Haymarket

Mr Love (PG)
Warner West End

Since the onset of martial law Poland's leading film directors have become increasingly nomadic, taking themselves wherever money and congenial prospects beckon, keeping channels open with European friends. Andrzej Wajda's recent films have been made in France and Germany; the present film by Krzysztof Zanussi, Year of the Quiet Sun, is a Polish-German-American co-production.

This eloquent drama about impossible love struggling to flower in the months after the Second World War was filmed in 1984 under watchful Polish eyes. At first the authorities found the project harmless, but their attitude changed once the film was completed and returned from Venice with the Golden Lion prize. Polish films, the authorities reasoned, only seem to win festival prizes in the West if they adopt a critical tone; and Zanussi's film certainly contains sequences likely to offend the easily-offended. One scene shows the heroine's home viciously ransacked by Communist mischief-makers. The film, at any rate, has been little seen within Poland.

Like Wajda in *Danton* and *A Love in Germany*, Zanussi uses his period setting as a cloak to disguise a harsh commentary on Poland today. Corruption and cruelty run rife through the film's ravaged nook of Europe — previously part of Germany, but now held by Poland and filled with settlers scraping a new life from the ruins. They have little expectation of happiness. Zanussi focuses on two: the widow Emilia, her horizons shrunk to the daily round of making do and caring for an ailing mother; and the American soldier Norman, helping with the war crime investigations, haunted by his own past suffering. Neither speaks the other's language, but they grow towards a kinship of feeling. Norman hopes for a future together elsewhere; fate has other ideas.

Maja Komorowska, a frequent player in Zanussi's films, creates a moving portrait of a sensitive woman half-stunted by life. The American actor Scott Wilson, by contrast, is somewhat stiff, though his manner befits a character forced to declare his love through interpreters. Behind these two, Zanussi constructs a dishevelled, demoralized, frightened society where bread, trust and love are equally scarce. His hand perhaps falters in the cryptic epilogue, set in 1964, but *Year of the Quiet Sun* remains a notable achievement for a national cinema in peril.

Sogo Ishii's Crazy Family makes an interesting companion-piece to last week's *The Empty Table*. Both films deal with family break-ups; both take serious issue with codes of behaviour in Japanese society. Their aesthetic strategies, however, are far different. In *The Empty Table* the veteran Kobayashi adopts the restrained, classical "art house" manner, with beautiful compositions and a controlled, slow pace. Ishii, not yet 30, opts instead for the brute force of commercial cinema and the frantic energy of youth. The script was developed by a comic-strip artist, Yoshinori Kobayashi, and he makes no concessions to cinema's own narrative tradition. As in the comics, the action is abrupt, exaggerated, hurled in our faces frame after frame, while the family members are one-dimensional figures governed by obsessions (the range includes material goods, education, fame and fortune, Japan's imperial past, and white ants).

Lest all this sounds tempting, I should add a warning note. *Crazy Family* is a comedy, but the amount of laughing matter is tiny. Only at the bizarre conclusion — when the homeless family lives in barren splendour on waste land — does the director show a firm hand and a visual eye. Elsewhere, he wades through his material with the same noisy abandon as the family's father, who lays into his nearest and dearest with a pneumatic drill.

The director Norman Jewison made his reputation with *In the Heat of the Night*, *The Thomas Crown Affair* and such — meretricious films with wide audience-appeal. Now he has retreated to sober ventures for the dwindling middlebrow market. Like its predecessor *A Soldier's Story*, Agnes of God derives from a worthy Broadway play, brimming with issues. Jewison's screen treatment takes full advantage of the wintry setting — a Montreal convent — but the piece remains in essence a triangular talk-show between Agnes (the childlike novice who mysteriously gives birth), the Mother Superior and a woman psychiatrist trying to test Agnes's sanity.

"I am not from the Inquisition", the psychiatrist says; "And I am not from the Middle Ages", snaps Mother Miriam. So it goes on, tit for tat, scene upon scene — a boxing match between faith and reason. Anne Bancroft gives a fiery, rounded portrayal as the Mother Superior, anxious to protect innocence in a whorish world, but Jane Fonda turns the psychiatrist into a humourless old stick. For the record, the father of Agnes's child — judging strictly by the visual evidence — seems to be a dove.

Mr Love comes from David Puttnam's Enigma company, and bears all the hallmarks. Like the *First Love* television films, it tells of quirky emotional attachments; the hero is a municipal gardener in Southport, facing 50 and anxious suddenly for love. The setting is indubitably British, and the budget decently slender. But *Mr Love* proves, not for the first time, that small is not necessarily beautiful. Audiences in the Fifties suffered a rash of piffling British comedies unduly proud of their regional flavour and whimsical humour, and the disease is now sweeping through our current production schedules.

Time has brought some differences to the genre. The script's sexual innuendos carry a whiff of a more permissive age — a whiff, too, of the scriptwriter Kenneth Eastaugh's previous labours on *The Carry-On Book*. The director of this forlorn enterprise is Roy Battersby, a political radical quietly earning some bread and butter. — G.B.



Maja Komorowska movingly sensitive in *Year of the Quiet Sun*, with Jerzy Stuhr

Dramatic recitation

I, Anatolia
Elizabeth Hall

Coinciding with the official visit of the Turkish Prime Minister, the leading Turkish actress Yildiz Kenter is giving a one-woman show which celebrates the "indomitable spirit" of Anatolian womanhood down the millenia. Anatolia is the historic name of Asian Turkey, the vast bulk of the modern state excluding the area this side of the Bosphorus to which the Greeks would like to bear gifts. It is a region of delectable food and haunting landscapes (to quote the brochures); it is also a country where, despite Mr Turgut Ozal's current mission to sanitize his international image, political repression is rife. This point was left to the leaflet-pushers outside the theatre on Wednesday. Miss Kenter, the "State Actress" of 1981, contents herself with a travelogue-style pageant presenting scenes from the lives of 16 mythical and historical heroines which stops short at 1922.

There certainly are some remarkably spirited characters on display: the fertility goddess Cybele; the ancient queen of the Hittites Puduhepa (for whom Miss Kenter dons a golden crown and cracks a bull-whip); King Midas's cheeky hairdresser (the one subject, in other words, who rumbled the secret of the ass's ears beneath his Phrygian cap); Andromache; Niobe; the Empress Theodora; the world's first woman historian, Anna Comnena. What a line-up.

The monologues that convey these potted histories, written by Gungor Dilmen and translated by Talat Sait Halman, would not, one cannot but think, make a particularly riveting read. The artistic purpose of the evening is surely to give a mature and widely experienced player the opportunity to rehearse her portfolio of acting techniques. One is left feeling that it would be interesting to see her in a real play.

● George Cole is currently appearing at the Duchess in *A Month of Sundays*, which I reviewed under its original title *The First Sunday in Every Month* when it opened at the Nuffield, Southampton.

Martin Cropper

German history looming large

There was a time when no festival was complete without its bomb threat, but the custom seemed to have died out over the last decade or so. Berlin revived it however for the showing of Reinhard Hauff's Stammheim, when persons unknown threatened to bomb the Zoo-Palast in protest. The riot police appeared in force inside and outside the building, only to be outwitted by the bombers, who made the cinema temporarily unusable with powerful stink-bombs which permeated the whole area with the sickening smell of stale vomit. The management have announced that only a complete renewal of the carpeting can eradicate the smell.

The incident was all the odder since *Stammheim* has already opened in West Germany without undue incident. It is a fairly sober dramatization of the trial of the Baader-Meinhof group in 1975, based on verbatim records and showing the courtroom confrontation of two elements each totally incapable of comprehending the other.

German history figures large in this year's festival. A quick count reveals no fewer than 20 films concerned with Germany's role in the Second World War — and that is without including the hundreds of films that are screened on the margin of the festival, in the film market.

Nazi nostalgia reaches its nadir in The Berlin Affair, in which Liliana Cavani returns to the mixture of sex and fascism she dished up so profitably in *The Night Porter*. Based on a Japanese novel, *The Buddhist Cross* by Junichiro Tanizaki, it is an absurd farrago about a demonic Japanese *femme fatale* and sex in the top diplomatic echelons of late-Thirties Germany. Gudrun Landgrebe struggles gamely to give a serious performance against all the odds of a ludicrous script and a cast of inept actors.

A different aspect of German history is treated with admirable freshness in the first feature film of Wieland Speck, a young German director who has previously made some creditable underground shorts. Westler is a romantic love-story of two young men, one from West Berlin and one from the East, and the obstacles to their meeting. Through this small personal story Speck tellingly demonstrates the cumulative effect of inhumanity and indignity in the rituals of border checks and searches. Rough, made on a shoestring and using 8mm clandestine footage shot in the East, it is a confident, touching, intelligent and promising work. — D.R.

Theatre

Hostile response

Three Sisters
Royal, Bristol

Launching the Bristol Old Vic's fortieth anniversary season, Paul Unwin's production sports some leading names and passages of memorably truthful acting; none of which compensates for its confusingly over-simplified approach to the play.

Mr Unwin has rightly noted that one of its key elements is indifference. With the exception of Natasha, the only character who achieves anything, the rest of the household shrug off their defeats and frustrations by affecting not to care. Chekhov supplies them with a choric line rendered in Richard Cottrell's translation as "It's all the same, anyway"; a line one comes to dread as it means that the action will grind to a halt to give it sledgehammer emphasis. At the end, Chebutikin even puts his newspaper down and barks the line straight to the house.

At the same time the performance takes note of the characters' coexisting passions. But its way of handling these is to play them full out with no thought of the subtext. To choose one perhaps unfairly glaring example from Act III: when Natasha passes through with a lighted candle, and Masha says it looks as if she started the fire, Olga (Jill Brassington) instantly snaps "You're stupid". Such a hostile response would have made it impossible for Masha then to confess her love for Vershinin. And when she does so it creates another of the emotional breaks that disfigure so much of the narrative line.

The sense of watching isolated figures rather than a group is intensified by the judgemental quality of the playing. It has been decided that some characters are more sympathetic than others. So Chekhov's ill-favoured, ineffectual Baron becomes a forceful and upstanding idealist in the hands of Robert Hickson; and Peter Copley's Chebutikhin combines expressions of indifference with growls of hostility when dealing with the supremely dislikeable Soliony of Martin Chunes. On the night of the fire, Chebutikhin even approaches the wash-basin with blood up to his elbows as if he has been working with the casualties; whereas the point of the scene is to show that he turned his back on the disaster and got drunk. As for poor Natasha, with all her faults she hardly deserves Alwyne Taylor's treatment as a buxom, monumentally self-satisfied matron whom Andrei would never have fallen for in the first place.

Where such schematic loyalties do not impose themselves, the play springs resiliently back to life: as where the sisters tease Chebutikhin about his unpaid rent (very refreshing and entirely just to treat this as a family joke), or pursue the fleeing Andrei to haul him back into the party.

With no sign of excess fat or mental lethargy, Tony Robinson is a startling Andrei, but it makes good sense to see him as a sharp, bird-like creature, caught in a disgusting trap but still capable of making wily escapes to town and keeping up childhood games with his old nurse. Paul Moriarty is an uninteresting Vershinin, notable only for his extreme contempt for the Baron. But he makes a fittingly unattainable partner for Harriet Walter's Masha, a performance of incurably restless energy and malign watchfulness, recoiling in nausea from her husband's touch and viewing her sisters' hopes with the dull eye of one who has long since abandoned such delusions.

Irving Wardle

Bailegangaire
Donmar Warehouse

The central presence in Tom Murphy's new play is that of the almost bedridden grandmother rising up from her nest of sheets and bolster to repeat yet again the tale she has told a hundred times, a thousand times. She has told it nightly, for years, with all the raconteur's mania for minute detail, so that her two stricken granddaughters have long known the major part of it by heart.

But, as we gradually surmise, it is that short part of it that they do not know, because Mommo has always shied off the conclusion, pleading tiredness, sinking down, pulling the covers over her head — it is that constantly omitted final outcome that is the crucial detail. And, by the refusal of its entry to her tale, to her memory, to the collective memory of the family, all three surviving members of it are maimed.

Literary analysts and students of structure can no doubt write their theses on aspects of this exceptionally interesting play. The telling of a tale as the ancestor of drama. The tale as memory, memory as therapy. But what is so immediately rewarding is the dramatic charge of the occasion — delivered primarily by Siobhán McKenna's mind-gripping achievement as Mommo.

Like the reaction of most of the wedding guests to the Ancient Mariner, one's response to the first part of her saga is glazed with panic. One has known that crazed eye in life, that gabbling tongue endlessly circling some point. There is something witchlike about her trembling fingers, her sidelong glances as she speaks now to the quilt, now to the floor, speaking from some long-unspeakable past: the night of a fair, a decent stranger and his decent lady, and a laughing contest that led to tragedy.

The booms and cackles of her laughter, the invention and variety of tone that enable her to people the remembered scene, all are conjured up in her unstrained, unfaltering voice.

Mommo's elder granddaughter, once a nurse, insists that the tale be finished, and so the play closes in a scene of reconciliation and hope. Marie Mullen presents an intense performance in this role and, as her over-fertile sister, Mary McEvoy gives strong support.

The dialogue is grimly funny, laughing at the tragedy of existence. "What use is man?" Mommo asks. "What utility the earwig?" The sense of life flowing and turning is conveyed so powerfully in Garry Hynes's direction that the play, fresh from its première in Galway, genuinely earns the cliché tag of an unforgettable occasion.

Jeremy Kingston



Siobhán McKenna: a mind-gripping achievement as Mommo in *Bailegangaire*

Concerts

YMSO/Blair
Festival Hall

Mahler's Sixth Symphony, the most savagely pessimistic of the whole cycle, exposes weaknesses in the most experienced orchestras. But the Young Musicians Symphony Orchestra exists precisely to stretch its budding professionals, and they emerged from this 90-minute ordeal with distinction.

I listened particularly closely to the upper strings, partly because the Sixth gives them greater domination over the wind chorus than in earlier Mahler symphonies, but mostly because of the current belief that Britain is not producing enough outstanding orchestral string players. In general these students were impressively neat, unified and tuneful, even under the pressure of altitude. The ravishing Andante tune was played with much tonal refinement and there was (as far as one could judge) little fudging of the fiendish semiquaver rushes underlying the great brass outbursts.

A little more risk-taking would have added spice, especially to the cross-string appoggiaturas which so frequently punctuate the violin melodies, but what the strings chiefly lacked was basic power. Only occasionally did the bows bite with passion.

Elsewhere there were plenty of extroverts at large. The horns whooped audaciously and mostly successfully. The trombones and tuba negotiated their nightmare ending well, and the woodwind's ensemble and intonation went awry only in the Scherzo, perhaps through over-enthusiastic emphasis on grotesque elements.

James Blair kept his huge forces under tight control, pacing the opening march sensibly (somewhere between Solti and Horenstein) and drawing the Andante to a glorious late flowering after a rather cool start. The Scherzo and introduction to the Finale were less convincingly managed, but once the music came under the hammer the orchestra played with ever-increasing conviction. What electrifying hammer-strokes they were, too, more than compensating for some peculiarly clanking cowbells earlier.

Richard Morrison

Songmakers' Almanac
Wigmore Hall

Gounod's stormy liaison with the formidable Mrs Georgina Weldon gave the Songmakers' Almanac another excuse for some satin-trimmed musical voyeurism. The titillation crept even beyond the grave: we had the pleasure of hearing one of the poems the dead Gounod dictated to a certain Charlotte who, for a sum, would in turn pass them on to Georgina.

When not busy modelling for Pears soap, crusading for law reform, running her orphanage or spending time in Holloway, Mrs Weldon — or so Graham Johnson's entertainment would have us believe — gloried in her megalomaniacal maternalism over Gounod. He, in return, did his bit for the posturing paternalism of his age: his setting of Lord Houghton's salon obsequy for David Livingstone, "The swarthy followers stood aloof, unled, unfathered!", lived up to expectation, and so did Martyn Hill's performance. The piece was, apparently, written on the beach at St Leonards.

Quite properly it was the compilation, not the performing, which did the sending up. Johnson was, for once, absent: his mastery of ceremonies was missed, but Clifford Benson's piano-playing, with its miraculously varied approach to Gounod's "oom-pom-poms", was greatly appreciated. So, too, was the characteristically thorough search and sifting: we heard Gounod at his most Gallic in "A toi mon coeur", at his most heroic in "Jerusalem"; we heard, among the rarely performed English songs, his scented transformation of Longfellow's "The Arrow and the Song".

But the evening seemed unusually threadbare. Musically it was less than satisfying: for all their earnest role-playing, neither Felicity Palmer, Patricia Rozario nor Stephen Varcoe are natural Gounod singers. Only the most joyously idiomatic of performances, perhaps, could make endurable all those endless tantrums and tittle-tattle from Tavistock House.

Hilary Finch

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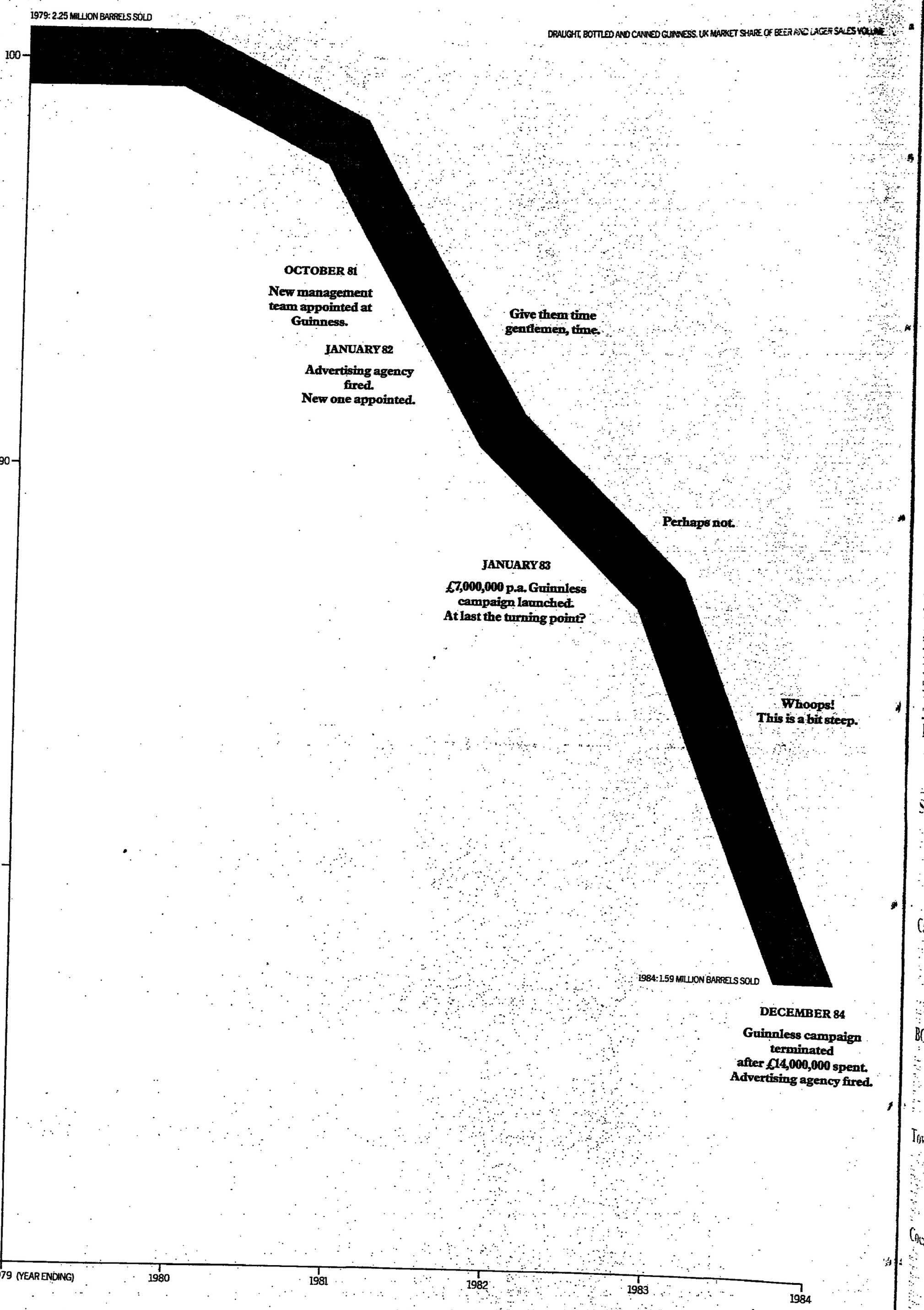
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After all this, no wonder Guinness management need a few Scotches.

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FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

STOCK MARKET

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FT-SE 100
1492.1 (+0.7)

USM (Datastream)
114.29 (-0.17)

THE POUND

US dollar
1.4520 (-0.0055)

W German mark
3.3483 (+0.0041)

Trade-weighted
74.7 (+0.2)

Indicators 'volatile'

The index of longer leading indicators of the British economy fell from 106.1 in December to 104.8 in January, and the shorter leading index from 97.7 to 96.4.

These are supposed to indicate directions for the economy up to 18 months and six months ahead respectively, but the Central Statistical Office says they are at present too volatile to give a clear indication of economic prospects.

The coincident index dipped from 92.7 to 92.1 in January, indicating a slight slowdown in the economy.

Date fixed for gilts switch

Official business in the gilt market will be handled by a new dealing operation in the gilt-edged division of the Bank of England from close of business on March 21.

Mr Ian Plenderleith, head of the division, will have overall responsibility for the new operation and becomes assistant director at the bank.

Tempus, page 19

Menvier-Swain, which designs and manufactures emergency lighting and fire alarm products from its base in Banbury, Oxfordshire, intends to enter the Unlisted Securities Market via a placing sponsored by J Henry Schroder Wagg in March. The broker to the issue is Phillips and Drew.

French record

The CAC Index of French shares surged to its highest-ever level of 306.7 points yesterday, from the previous peak of 302.6 set on Wednesday.

SE service

Barclays and NMW Computers are at an advanced stage in discussions on forming a joint company to provide settlement and clearing services for stockbrokers trading on the Stock Exchange. The new company is expected to be operational well before October 27, the planned day for the big bang.

Canal stake

Highams, the private company of Mr John Whittaker, the chairman of Peel Holdings, has increased its stake in the Manchester Ship Canal Company to give it 27 per cent of the voting rights. The company recently said that it had no plans for a takeover bid.

BOC advance

BOC, the industrial gases, health care and carbon group, made pretax profits of £37.9 million for the three months to December 31, up from £33 million. Turnover improved from £533.6 million to £552.6 million.

Tempus, page 19

Tower plan

Plans to redevelop the Daily Telegraph site in Fleet Street have narrowly won the approval of the City of London Corporation's planning committee. Rothesay Developments wants to build a 342,000 sq ft tower block on the site.

Coca-Cola bid

Coca-Cola said it has reached a preliminary agreement to acquire Dr Pepper, the American soft drinks company, from Forstmann Little and senior managers of Dr Pepper for $470 million (£320 million), including payment of about $170 million of Dr Pepper's debts.

BASE LENDING RATES

ABN	12½%
Adam & Company	12½%
BCCI	12½%
Citibank Savings†	12½%
Consolidated Crds	12½%
Continential Trust	12½%
Co-operative Bank	12½%
C. Hoare & Co	12½%
Lloyds Bank	12½%
Nat Westminster	12½%
Royal Bank of Scotland	12½%
TSB	12½%
Citibank NA	12½%

† Mortgage Base Rate.

BP defends petrol prices despite record profits

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

BP yesterday announced record profits of £1.6 billion and defended its decision not to cut prices at the petrol pumps more quickly.

The announcement came against a background of tumbling world oil prices and pressure on oil companies to reduce petrol prices.

Most of the improved profits came from what the industry describes as "downstream" operations — converting crude oil into products such as petrol, home heating oil, plastics, detergents and chemicals.

Sir Peter Walters, the chairman, said that the return on BP's investments in refining operations were "about the right level".

Sir Peter said: "Looking ahead to 1986 our exploration and production business will generate lower profits to the extent that crude oil prices are generally lower in 1986 compared with 1985.

"However, the impact will be moderated because of tax rates in the UK. In the short term, lower feedstock (crude oil) prices may also benefit other oil refining, marketing and chemicals businesses".

Mr David Kendall, head of BP's refining operations, said that oil now passing through the refineries to be turned into petrol had often been bought six weeks in advance.

BP also said that for five years profits on selling petrol had been virtually non existent and defended making a return for its investments when it could.

Overall profits would have been even better last year, but the company wrote off £929 million on restructuring its American subsidiary Sohio, and its chemicals and coal businesses.

The company is also upgrading valuations on the oil reserves that it still plans to develop, despite the fall in oil prices, to bring them into line with other companies' valuations.



Sir Peter: return on investment about right"

The head of the company's exploration division said that development plans had been drawn up in October on the basis of an oil price of $25 per barrel and would now need to be reviewed, although no projects were in danger of being cancelled.

The detailed profit figures of BP underline the remarkable turn round in the profitability of the petrol refining and sales operations.

After years of low returns petrol sales have made substantial profits because of falling crude prices and, BP says, the cut in manpower at refineries.

BP's exploration operating profits rose 3 per cent to £1.4 million

The company's oil trading operations made significantly improved profits and BP Gas increased its profit margins by one third to £129 million.

BP Chemicals maintained its profitability at £67 million, although operations in minerals cancel that out with a loss of £67 million.

However, profits on coal rose to their highest ever at £28 million and Sohio contributed £814 million

Slow growth hits dollar as Baker urges deficit cut

From Bailey Morris, Washington

The dollar dropped sharply in nervous trading yesterday as dealers digested news of slower-than-expected growth in the US economy late last year and attempted to reconcile conflicting statements by top administration officials over the direction of exchange rates.

US Commerce Department officials disclosed yesterday that real gross national product in the final quarter of last year grew by only 1.2%, just half that forecast, as a result of a sharper-than-expected rise in the trade deficit. Net US exports dropped by $14.2 billion in the fourth quarter instead of the estimated $7.8 billion.

The latest figures were released even as Mr James Baker, the Treasury Secretary, appeared on Capitol Hill for a second day of Congressional testimony in which he urged Congress to cut sharply the $200 billion budget deficit to allow more leeway in setting monetary policy.

Mr Baker said under questioning that he believed the US Federal Reserve Board, which acts as a central bank, would have more room to ease monetary policy if the budget deficits were reduced. Mr Baker has been arguing for an easier money policy and a lower dollar to reduce the US trade deficit which remains a blight on the economy.

The Treasury Secretary spoke before testimony by Mr Paul Volcker, the Federal Reserve Board chairman, who indicated on Wednesday that he was not anxious to ease credit further because he feared the dollar's recent plunge could become unmanageable.

Markets reacted strongly that comment, taking it as a sign that neither credit nor US interest rates would be eased short term. In addition, the statements were regarded as a strong signal that the dollar would have an important impact on US monetary policy in the months ahead. Mr Volcker believes the dollar has dropped far enough.

S Africa agrees solution on debt

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

South Africa yesterday reluctantly agreed a solution to its refusal to repay $10 billion short-term foreign bank debt.

Announcing the temporary arrangement, Dr Fritz Leutwiler, who is acting as intermediary between South Africa and its bank creditors, said: "This was an interim measure designed as a step towards normality in South Africa's external financial arrangements".



Dr Fritz Leutwiler: "a step towards normality"

He said the agreement was conditional on clear progress by South Africa towards abolishing apartheid.

Dr Leutwiler said that a meeting in London yesterday between South African government officials and 30 major creditor banks reached broad agreement on a set of repayment proposals.

It was not a formal rescheduling agreement and involved individual arrangements between banks and their debtors.

Of South Africa's $10 billion short-term debt, 5 per cent would be repaid between the end of March and March 31, 1987, with the rest rolled over for another year.

The interest charged would be limited to 1 per cent above the amount charged on the loans when South Africa first introduced its "standstill" on repayments last summer.

South Africa has external debts totalling $24 billion but the standstill applies only to $14 billion

Dr Leutwiler said the banks would now form a committee to work out the details

He said that politics had not been discussed at the meeting but had formed the background.

The meeting also agreed that the situation would be reviewed before next February.

Rank buys leisure operation

By Our City Staff

English China Clays has sold its leisure division comprising HL Holdings and its subsidiary Haven to Rank Holdings, a subsidiary of Rank Organisation, for £37.5 million cash.

Haven operates 16 self-catering holiday parks in the United Kingdom trading as Haven Holidays and 388 boats on the French canals and Norfolk Broads trading as Blue Line Cruisers. It also markets holidays in France and Spain under the names of Haven Abroad and Haven Vacances.

Net assets were £34 million at September 30 and Haven's operating profit for 1984-1985 was £3.76 million on a turnover of £20.82 million.

Proceeds of the sale of Haven will be used to promote the growth of the core business

UK bank near to Docklands deal

By Judith Huntley, Commercial Property Correspondent

One of Britain's big four clearing banks is to take a significant amount of space in the 10 million sq ft financial services centre planned for Canary Wharf in London's Docklands.

Mr G Ware Travelstead, who is spearheading the development for the consortium of foreign banks involved in the £1 billion project, said yesterday that the deal would be announced within the next few days. But the scheme still hinges on the Docklands Light Railway now being built from the Isle of Dogs enterprise zone, which contains Canary Wharf, to Tower Hill in the City of London.

The consortium, which includes Credit Suisse and First Boston with Morgan Stanley as a prospective tenant, intends spending about £74 million to extend the rail link to Mansion House next to the Bank of England. The project will not go ahead unless this extension is approved by Parliament.

Mr Ware Travelstead, of First Boston Real Estate, says that Canary Wharf will be financed on 15-year fixed interest money, and that occupiers will be offered a 15-year lease with no rent reviews along American lines.

He has yet to sign the agreement to buy the 71-acre freehold site from the London Docklands Development Corporation but he says that will be done once the rail extension is approved.

The consortium says it has occupiers for 4 million sq ft of its development from firms which cannot find the right kind of space in the Square Mile ahead of big bang.

EEC may check Japan's imports

By Michael Prest, Financial Correspondent

Britain will press at the next meeting of EEC foreign ministers for regular monitoring of Japan's progress towards opening its markets to exports, Mr Alan Clark, Minister for Trade, said yesterday.

He said that the EEC was keen on setting an import target, against which the liberalization of the Japanese market could be measured. Japan's action programme is supposed to tackle such barriers to imports as tariffs, quotas, public sector purchases, and import promotion.

Mr Clark said that he would like to look at ways in which decisions to fund exports under the Aid for Trade Provision, which comes under the Overseas Development Administration budget, could be speeded up.

The Department of Trade and Industry has been interested for some time in bringing ATP more under its control. Mr Clark said he would like to see the aid component in export finance increased.

Mr Clark, who became Minister for Trade only last month when Mr Paul Channon succeeded Mr Leon Brittan as Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, also criticised restrictions on exports of technology to the Soviet bloc.

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Whisky firm's plan to avoid Monopolies bar

The Government's rather mechanistic attitude to competition in merger policy (save in the Allied-Lyons case) is allowing the new highly competitive and ingenious folk in the City to treat the policy with a contempt it may well deserve. The technique is to sell off just enough combined market share to climb out of reference to the Monopolies Commission. The Guinness camp, managed by Morgan Grenfell, has now emulated the unilateral plea bargaining pioneered by none other than Morgan Grenfell in its role as adviser to United Biscuits.

The scheme dreamt up to avoid the new Guinness bid for Distillers being sent to the Commission is not so convincingly clear cut as the straightforward plan to separate United's KP from Imperial's Golden Wonder snacks. Pulling together a series of secondary brands with associated bottling and blending plants for Morgan Grenfell to sell, at whatever they will fetch, neatly cuts the share of the home whisky market of the combined group below 25 per cent. Most of the 13 per cent share of the market being sold, however, is simply in discount brands that sell strictly on price. Worldwide rights would be divested only in Claymore and John Barr, though that need be no business of the Commission. Certainly the divestment should cause little pain to Guinness/Distillers from a marketing point of view since the market share could easily be recouped if required. If the OFT line is as mechanistic as it seems, however, a Government refusal to accept the straight divestment of market share would make it appear even more to be taking sides.

Assuming the ploy is successful, the bid competition is on again with a vengeance, even if Grand Metropolitan decides not to make it a three-way fight. Guinness has a strong edge on cash alternatives. Its 630p per Distillers share compares with 600p from Argyll. That may turn out to be more significant than the relative nominal values of the share-based packages, where at present 648p from Guineess compares with 635p from Argyll.

The new profit forecast from Distillers gives scope for further bids. Lower pension costs offset adverse currency movements to allow a forecast of £280 million pretax against £236 million and a helpfully low tax charge converts that into earnings of 50.66p per share against 37.7lp. The Guinness cash offer would therefore be only 12.4 times forecast nominal earnings.

Against that, however, it is becoming a lot harder for the rivals to underwrite higher bids. Distillers comes to be an ever higher proportion of the merged companies as the bids increase, so higher share offers could soon begin to sag under their own weight. That consideration applies particularly to Argyll, which could see a retail share rating being heavily diluted. The lack of response of Distillers shares to yesterday's developments suggests the market is sceptical, but that allows the rivals to pick up shares in the market. The Argyll camp revealed almost 3 million more yesterday, bringing its holdings up to 13 million. Argyll certainly needs to save a little money. It could find itself buying up to £40 million of the costs of the Guinness bid if it wins the day.

Elliott gears up

The apparent ease with which United Biscuits/Imperial and Guinness/Distillers have extricated themselves from references to the Monopolies Commission and then rebid must be making John Elliott of Elders IXL wonder where he has gone wrong.

Elders' £1.7 billion bid for Allied-Lyons is not due to be decided on by the Commission until June. Mr Elliott, in London this week to announce Elders' interim results and to see the Commission today, is confident he will convince the Monopolies men of the financial soundness of his bid. The reference was made because of fears about gearing levels, Mr Elliott claims.

The reasons for his confidence are not entirely obvious. Elders' debt/equity stands at a hefty 100 per cent and Australian interest rates are a steep 20 per cent. The company managed to increase interim pre-tax profits by 41 per cent to A$73.8 million (£36.4 million), although operating profits from pure trading were down 5.8 per cent at A$119.7 million.

Even if the Commission were to be convinced by Elders' 350-page submission, the battle for Allied is a very long way from being won. Allied's shares rose 3p yesterday to 286p, putting the company well out of reach of Elders' 255p a share bid. There must be some consolation in the fact that Elders is showing a £32 million profit on its 6 per cent stake.

Mr Elliott would not be drawn on his interest in the Imperial bid scene. His previous agreement to sell Allied's food division to Imperial looks somewhat hypothetical at the moment, although he claims there are more than 10 interested buyers for the division. On an even more speculative note, Mr Elliott is believed to be interested in Courage, if chunks of Imperial were ever to be sold off.

Speaking for the City

Time is running short for the Financial Services Bill, which is due to be passed into law by the middle of the year. There are still four important outstanding questions which the parliamentary draftsmen do not seem to be able to solve in words acceptable to the relevant sections of the City. Yet there still seems to be a disconcerting lack of urgency at the Securities and Investment Board.

The issues are: defining a professional trader as distinct from an occasional or private user of a market; the related need to distinguish in the rules between primary and secondary markets; delineating the responsibilities of self-regulatory organizations; and granting SROs indemnity.

All the designated SROs accept the premise of the legislation, that it should protect the private investor. But rules protecting the private investor can be a serious competitive handicap. Thus Eurobond houses are again giving warning that prohibitions on them against cold-calling the chairman of ICI could drive the business, which last year issued £80 billion of bonds from London, out of the City.

One might expect Ian Steers, the spokesman for the International Securities Regulatory Organization, to make such a claim. But the ISRO's argument yesterday that all SROs are affected by these four points is correct. The lead regulator concept — now restricted to governing capital adequacy — has not settled the question of how many SROs a firm might have to join. Nor is the Government's lack of concern over the failure to grant indemnity to SROs bolstering confidence in the Bill.

Changes are urgently needed in the Bill. SROs and their members are most reluctant to leave unclear passages to the interpretation of the SIB, lest a future government should use the SIB against the City. As spokesman-designate for the City, the SIB should use all its influence to ensure that the bill, when enacted, is as complete as possible.

Westland mystery continues

The board of Westland Helicopters and its merchant bank, Lazard Brothers, are still searching for the identity of the six mystery shareholders with 20 per cent of the company

Sir John Cuckney, chairman of Westland, told the House of Commons Select Committee on Trade and Industry on Wednesday the names of the nominee companies holding the shares

Rowe & Pitman Nominees held 4.9 per cent for an Australian company, Actranct of Canberra. A further 4.9 per cent was held by Sterling Trust of Geneva. Midland Bank Overseas Nominees held 8.4 per cent for both Rothschilds Bank of Zurich and the Gulf and Occidental Investment Company of Geneva. Vidacos Nominees held 3.7 per cent for a Swiss bank, Dreyfus & Co, with the remaining 0.8 per cent belonging to Invastadt for another Swiss bank.

Ten in race to carve up BL

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Ten groups are now racing to take over BL's Land Rover, truck and bus operations — with General Motors, the world's biggest motor manufacturer, still clearly leading the field.

It is a race against the clock to buy Land Rover, the biggest centre of bid attention, and the truck operation. Firm intentions of making an offer have to be notified by March 4.

The timing on this has been affected by GM's negotiations, which have been directed at a takeover of Land Rover and Leyland trucks. GM is not interested in the buses, a market badly hit by falling sales.

Although a specific deadline for negotiations on the bus operation has not been laid down, there is not much room for manoeuvre because BL and the Government are looking to its future being settled by the end of March.

Land Rover, with its associated Freight Rover, is in the sights of seven groups. Land Rovers and Range Rovers are manufactured at Solihull, on the southern edge of Birmingham. Last year the Solihull factory turned out 44,500 vehicles, of which 13,500 were Range Rovers. Nearer the city centre the Freight Rover factory last year turned out 18,900 Sherpas.

Land and Freight Rover last year had a turnover of probably £600 million with the Sherpa operation accounting for possibly £100 million. Profits at the trading level have been improving at Land Rover. In 1984 they amounted to £2 million, but in the first half of last year rose to £5.7 million. But no indication has been given of the Land Rover performance at the more crucial pretax level.

The seven wanting Land Rover are GM, Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland's Lonrho, Aveling Barford, a Land Rover management buy-out group and three unnamed suitors, two foreign and one based in Britain.

Among British companies which might have been thought to be interested in Land Rover, the privatized Jaguar has said it has no immediate interest, and GKN is among the components manufacturers which approve of a GM link.

Lonrho is a conglomerate with a wide range of interests from mining to newspapers and Scotch whisky. It has an extensive international vehicle distribution network, especially in Third World countries, and it believes that Land Rover sales could be lifted by exploiting Lonrho's strengths.

Aveling Barford, which makes heavy construction equipment at its Grantham factory, was part of BL until it was privatized in 1983.

The management buy-out of Land Rover is being attempted by a consortium led by Mr David Andrews, BL's executive director responsible for the commercial vehicles division, backed by five senior Land Rover managers.

Leyland trucks has also attracted the attention of one unnamed foreign group. The trucks and bus operation in 1984 had trading losses of £61 million. There was an improvement in the first half of last year, when there was a trading loss of £23.5 million against £33.7 million in the corresponding period of the previous year. The greater losses proportionately were made in bus manufacturing.

Leyland is a key supplier of buses, and accounts for a large slice of the British market. The bus operation is likely to be a target not only for Aveling Barford but for the Laird Group and Volvo.

Laird's Metro Cammell Weymann, with a factory at Birmingham, already makes buses

Sweden's Volvo, which claims more than a fifth of the luxury coach market in Britain, already manufactures trucks and buses at an Irvine, Ayrshire, factory.

Dawson may seek to recover bid cost

By Teresa Poole

Dawson International yesterday withdrew from the battle for Coats Patons, the Glasgow-based clothing and textile company which has agreed a takeover by Vantona Viyella. Dawson said it was considering legal steps to recover its £6 million costs.

Dawson launched a £625 million agreed bid for Coats Patons at the end of last month but two weeks later Coats Patons announced it had agreed the £700 million Vantona offer.

Dawson's chairman and chief executive, Mr Ronald Miller, said: "We feel agrieved and we have taken legal advice. That advice is that we should look further into the matter." In a letter to shareholders he said that "the manner of these events is entirely foreign to our way of conducting our affairs.

"We are withdrawing our offer as we are neither prepared to compromise our high standards nor extend our resources further against what we considered was already a full and fair price."

Mr Miller claims that Dawson incurred the expense of underwriting the cash offer because the board of Coats Patons insisted on a cash alternative in the original merger terms. "We agreed to incur them only because we were led to believe the board of Coats Patons were committed to supporting our offer, that they would remain so committed."

Mr Jim McAdam, chief executive of Coats Patons, yesterday denied that his company was in any way liable for Dawson's costs. "They did raise with us the question of sharing costs back when the offer was being discussed and we told them that was something we could not contemplate," he said.

WALL STREET

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 20.52 to close at 1,658.26 on Wednesday. There were 687 issues advancing, 1,003 declining and 354 unchanged.

Volume totalled 152.03 million shares, compared with 160.2 million shares on Tuesday. The NYSE composite index was 126.75, down 1.35. The average price per share was down 41 cents.

The American Stock Exchange volume totalled 14,683,170 shares, compared with 15,778,700 on Tuesday. There were 282 issues advancing, 354 declining and 210 unchanged.

Traders on the New York Stock Exchange said the market's volatility was partially due to scattered arbitrage against stock index futures.

	Feb 19	Feb 18		Feb 19	Feb 18		Feb 19	Feb 18
AMR	51⅞	52⅝	Exxon Corp	51½	51⅞	Phelps Dge	24⅞	25¼
ASA	38	37½	Fed Dpt Sts	68⅞	68	Philip Mrs	100	102
Allied Signal	50¼	50⅝	Firestone	24½	25	Phillips Pet	9⅝	9⅞
Allied Strs	72½	73½	Fst Chicago	29⅞	29⅞	Polaroid	55⅞	56⅞
Allis Chlmrs	4⅝	4½	Fst Int Bncp	55⅝	57	PPG Ind		57⅞
Alcoa	43½	44½	Fst Penn C	8	8	Prctr Gmbl	65½	67⅞
Amax Inc	12½	12⅝	Ford	69⅞	70¼	Pb S E & G	36⅞	35⅞
Am'rda Hs	22	23	GAF Corp	64⅞	62½	Raytheon	56⅝	58⅝
Am Brands	73½	74	GTE Corp	49¼	50⅝	RCA Corp	61⅞	61⅝
Am Brdcast	n/a	n/a	Gen Corp	74⅝	n/a	Rynlds Met	44⅝	44⅞
Am Can	76¾	77½	Gen Dy'mcs	72	75¾	Rockwell Int	37⅞	38⅞
Am Cynm'd	63½	63⅝	Gen Electric	75	75⅝	Royal Dutch	64⅝	65⅝
Am El Pwr	25¼	25⅝	Gen Inst	21	21⅝	Safeways	35⅝	36
Am Express	61¼	62¼	Gen Mills	62½	62⅞	Sara Lee	52	52⅞
Am Home	70⅞	71½	Gen Motors	79⅝	80	SFE Sopac	38⅝	39⅞
Am Hospital	n/a	n/a	Gn Pb Ut ny	19¼	19⅝	SCM	73⅝	73
Am Motors	2⅝	2⅞	Genesco	3⅞	n/a	Schl'berger	29½	29⅞
Am St'nrd	42⅝	42⅝	Georgia Pac	29½	29⅝	Scott Paper	57⅝	57⅞
Am Teleph	21¾	21⅜	Gillette	77⅝	79¼	Seagram	51	52
Amoco	57⅝	57⅞	Goodrich	39⅝	39⅝	Sears Rbck	42	42⅞
Armco Steel	10⅞	10⅝	Goodyear	34⅝	35⅝	Shell Trans	38⅝	38⅝
Asarco	20½	21¼	Gould Inc	28⅝	28⅞	Singer	46⅝	46⅝
Ashland Oil	42	41¾	Grace	52⅝	53¼	Smithkln Bk	81	n/a
At Richfield	51⅛	52⅝	Gt Atl & Tac	21⅞	22⅞	Sony	19½	19⅞
Avon Prods	29⅝	29½	Gr'hnd	34⅝	33⅞	Sth Cal Ed	28⅝	29⅞
Bkrs Tst NY	38⅞	39	Gruman Cor	24	25¼	Sperry Corp	52½	51⅞
Bankamer	14	13⅞	Gulf & West	53½	53⅝	Std Oil Ohio	46½	46⅝
Bk of Bston	66⅝	67	Heinz H.J.	32½	32⅝	Sterling Drg	40⅞	41½
Bank of NY	55	54⅝	Hercules	42⅝	44⅝	Stevens JP	31½	32
Beatrce Fds	45⅝	45⅝	H'lett-Pkrd	43⅞	44⅞	Sun Comp	44⅝	48⅝
Beth Steel	18⅝	19⅝	Honeywell	80½	82⅞	Teledyne	327⅝	329
Boeing	48½	49½	IC Inds	40⅝	41⅝	Tenneco	37⅝	37⅝
Bse Cascde	50	50⅝	Ingersoll	64½	63	Texaco	29	29⅝
Brden	56⅝	56⅝	Inland Steel	25¼	26½	Texas E Cor	34⅝	34½
Bg Warner	27⅝	28	IBM	157⅝	159⅝	Texas Inst	124⅝	125⅞
Brist Myers	65½	66⅝	Int Harvtr	8⅝	8⅝	Texas Utils	33⅝	33⅞
BP	30⅞	30⅝	INCO	14	14⅛	Textron	56⅝	57⅝
Burl'ton Ind	35	34⅞	Int Paper	55⅝	55⅝	Travlrs Cor	53⅝	54⅝
Burl'ton Ntn	76⅞	77⅞	Int Tel Tel	41	41⅞	TRW Inc	94⅝	95⅝
Burroughs	70⅞	70¼	Irving Bank	48½	48½	UAL Inc	57⅞	57⅞
Cmpbell Sp	49	48½	Jhnsn & Jhn	48	49⅝	Unilever NV	137⅝	140¼
Can Pacific	12½	12	Kaiser Alum	17	17¼	Un Carbide	86⅞	87
Caterpiller	48¼	49	Kerr McGee	26½	27	Un Pac Cor	48⅝	50
Celanese	188	198	Kmb'ly Clrk	77½	78	Utd Brands	24	24½
Central SW	29¼	29⅝	K Mart	37⅞	38⅞	US Steel	22⅞	22⅝
Champion	27½	27⅞	Kroger	47½	47⅞	Utd Technol	52¼	53⅛
Chase Man	38⅞	39½	L.T.V. Corp	6⅞	6⅝	Unocal	22⅞	22⅝
Chm Bk NY	44⅝	45⅜	Litton	78⅝	79½	Wachovia	n/a	n/a
Chevron	35	36	Lockheed	51⅜	51⅞	Jim Walter	48½	47⅝
Chrysler	56	54½	Lucky Strs	24½	24⅝	Wrner Lmbt	47⅝	48⅝
Citicorp	50⅞	52⅝	Man H nver	44⅞	45⅝	Wells Fargo	75¼	77⅝
Clark Equip	23¼	24	Manville Cp	6⅝	6⅝	W'ghse El	48⅝	48
Coca Cola	86⅝	88	Mapco	37⅝	38	Weyerh'ser	34⅝	35⅝
Colgate	33⅝	34½	Marine Mid	44½	44½	Whirlpool	60½	59⅝
CBS	124	121½	Mrt Marietta	35½	35⅞	Woolworth	66⅝	69⅞
C'mbia Gas	39⅝	40¼	Masco	46½	46¼	Xerox Corp	67⅝	68½
Cmb'tn Eng	33¼	32⅝	McDonnell	78¼	79½	Zenith	21⅞	21⅝
Comwlth Ed	33¼	33¼	Mead	47⅞	48			
Cons Edis	41⅞	41⅞	Merck	148	147⅝			
Cn Nat Gas	49	48¼	Minsta Mng	98⅞	98			
Cons Power	10⅞	10⅞	Mobil Oil	28	28⅞			
Cntrl Data	23⅞	23¼	Monsanto	54⅞	54⅞			
Corning Gl	68⅝	69¼	Morgan J P.	65½	66⅝			
CPC Intl	55½	n/a	Motorola	44⅝	45			
Crane	42	41¼	NCR Corp	45½	46⅞			
Crn Zeller	45	45¾	NL Indstrs	14⅝	14⅞			
Dart & Kraft	44½	44⅞	Nat Distrs	37½	38			
Deere	30½	31¼	Nat Med Ent	20⅝	20⅝			
Delta Air	45	45¼	Nat Smcndt	14⅛	14⅞			
Detroit Ed	17⅞	17½	Norfolk Sth	90⅝	89⅝			
Digital Eq	160¼	161½	NW Bancrp	32⅝	48			
Disney	126⅝	129½	Occidnt Pet	25⅝	26			
Dow Chem	46⅝	46¼	Ogden	27⅝	29⅝			
Dresser Ind	16⅛	16⅝	Olin Corp	38⅝	38⅞			
Duke Power	38⅞	39¾	Owens-Ill	61⅝	67			
Du Pont	69⅝	70	Pac Gas El	21⅝	21⅞			
Eastern Air	6	5¾	Pan Am	8⅝	8⅝			
Estm Kodak	50⅞	51¾	Penney J.C.	59⅝	61⅞			
Eaton Corp	70½	72	Pennzoil	56⅝	57⅞			
Emerson El	84½	85	Pepsico	71	71⅞			
Evans Prod	n/a	n/a	Pfizer	51⅞	52⅝			

CANADIAN PRICES

Abitibi	n/a	16⅝
Alcn Alum	44½	44⅝
Algoma Stl	18⅝	18½
Bell Tele	n/a	
Can Pacific	17	16⅝
Comnco	11½	11⅝
Con Bathrst	n/a	22⅞
Gulf Oil	15	15⅞
Hkr/Sid Can	n/a	22½
Hdsn B Min	n/a	26¼
Imasco	24⅝	24⅝
Imperial Oil	42⅝	42⅞
In Pipe	39	39
Mass-Ferg	n/a	285
Ryl Trustco	n/a	26⅝
Seagram	71	72⅝
Steel Co	26	26⅝
Thmsn N 'A'	n/a	26½
Wlkr Hiram	28	28⅝
WCT	14	14⅝

● Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

	Market rates day's range February 19	Market rates close February 19	1 month	3 months
N York	1.4220-1.4680	1.4580-1.4590	0.52-0.49prem	1.54-1.49prem
Montreal	2.0150-2.0335	2.0279-2.0335	0.03-0.12dis	0.10pm-0.10dis
Ams'dam	3.7517-3.7872	3.7785-3.7872	2⅛-1⅞prem	6⅛-5⅝
Brussels	67.99-69.02	68.27-68.56	13/5prem	30/18
C'pngen	12.2865-12.3701	12.2865-12.3220	5⅝-3⅝prem	13⅜-11⅜
Dublin	1.1016-1.1080	1.1044-1.1054	35-75dis	95-165
Frankfurt	3.3248-3.3528	3.3386-3.3528	2⅛-1⅞prem	6½-6⅛
Lisbon	216.82-219.23	216.94-218.85	265-550dis	600-1540
Madrid	210.10-210.97	210.10-210.68	25prem-15dis	25-145dis
Milan	2258.16-2282.92	2258.16-2270.11	7-11dis	32-37
Oslo	10.4177-10.4705	10.4177-10.4537	¼-1dis	1½-3
Paris	10.1840-10.2932	10.2430-10.2932	¼prem-1¼dis	6⅛-8⅝dis
St'khlm	10.5633-10.6357	10.5633-10.5923	¼prem-par	2½-1⅝prem
Tokyo	257.67-261.02	259.75-261.02	1⅛-1⅛prem	4⅛-3⅝
Vienna	23.39-23.54	23.39-23.46	11⅛-9⅝prem	33⅝-29
Zurich	2.7391-2.7763	2.7562-2.7663	2-1⅝prem	5⅞-5½

Sterling index compared with 1975 was up at 74.5 (day's range n/a).

The dollar came under heavy selling pressure on foreign exchanges on Wednesday. It retreated in disarray against both the West German mark and the Japanese yen, but managed to edge off bottom positions at the close.

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina austral*	1.1572-1.1585
Australia dollar	2.0385-2.0428
Bahrain dinar	0.5425-0.5465
Brazil cruzeiro*	19,035.9-19,143.1
Cyprus pound	0.7410-0.7510
Finland marka	7.51-7.53
Greece drachma	204.85-206.85
Hong Kong dollar	11.272-11.283
India rupee	17.60-17.80
Iraq dinar	n/a
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4055-0.4095
Malaysia dollar	3.5727-3.5811
Mexico peso	640-690
New Zealand dollar	2.6814-2.6933
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.2615-5.3015
Singapore dollar	3.1146-3.1197
South Africa rand	2.9290-2.9431
U A E dirham	5.2[illegible]-5.3230

*Lloyds Bank International

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Ireland	1.3090-1.3110
Singapore	2.1550-2.1570
Malaysia	2.4720-2.4750
Australia	0.7080-0.7090
Canada	1.3940-1.3950
Sweden	7.3300-7.3400
Norway	7.2075-7.2125
Denmark	8.5275-8.5325
West Germany	2.3030-2.3060
Switzerland	1.9110-1.9125
Netherlands	2.6050-2.6080
France	7.0925-7.0975
Japan	178.00-178.20
Italy	1569.0-1571.0
Belgium(Comm)	47.05-47.15
Hong Kong	7.7980-7.7800
Portugal	150.50-151.50
Spain	144.00-144.30
Austria	16.06-16.09

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

Base Rates %
Clearing Banks 12½
Finance House 12

Discount Market Loans %
Overnight High: 12½ Low 10
Week fixed: 12⁷⁄₁₆

Treasury Bills (Discount %)
Buying: 2 mnth 12³⁄₁₆; 3 mnth 12
Selling: 2 mnth 12¹⁄₁₆; 3 mnth 11⅞

Prime Bank Bills (Discount %)
1 mnth 12¹¹⁄₃₂-12⅝; 2 mnth 12⁹⁄₁₆-12¹⁄₁₆
3 mnth 12-11⅞; 6 mnth 11¹⁵⁄₁₆-11⅝

Trade Bills (Discount %)
1 mnth 12²¹⁄₃₂; 2 mnth 12¹³⁄₁₆
3 mnth 12⅝; 6 mnth 12⁵⁄₁₆

Interbank (%)
Overnight: open 12½ close 11
1 week 13-12⅝; 6 mnth 12-11⅝
1 mnth 12¹¹⁄₁₆-12⅝; 9 mnth 11⅞-11¹³⁄₁₆
3 mnth 12⁵⁄₁₆-12³⁄₁₆; 12 mth 11⅞-11¹³⁄₁₆

Local Authority Deposits (%)
2 days 12½; 7 days 12½
1 mnth 12⅝; 3 mnth 12⅝
6 mnth 12¼; 12 mth 11⅝

Local Authority Bonds (%)
1 mnth 13¼-13; 2 mnth 13¼-13
3 mnth 13⅛-12⅞; 6 mnth 12⅝₁₆-12¹⁄₁₆
9 mnth 13⅛-12½; 12 mth 12⅝-12½

Sterling CDs (%)
1 mnth 12⅝-12⅝; 3 mnth 12⁹⁄₁₆-12⁵⁄₁₆
6 mnth 12-11⅞; 12 mth 11⅝-11⅝

Dollar CDs (%)
1 mnth 7.85-7.80; 3 mnth 7.85-7.80
6 mnth 7.85-7.80; 12 mth 7.95-7.90

EURO MONEY DEPOSITS %

Dollar
7 days 7¹⁵⁄₁₆-7¹¹⁄₁₆; call 8⅛-7⅞
3 months 7¹⁵⁄₁₆-7¹³⁄₁₆; 1 month 7⅞
6 months 8-7⅞

Deutschmark
7 days 4⅝-4½; call 5-4
3 months 4⁹⁄₁₆-4⁷⁄₁₆; 1 month 4⁹⁄₁₆-4⁷⁄₁₆
6 months 4⁹⁄₁₆-4⁷⁄₁₆

French Franc
7 days 9½-9; call 10-9
3 months 15-14½; 1 month 13-12½
6 months 13⅝-13⅝

Swiss Franc
7 days 1⅞-1⅞; call 1½-½
3 months 3⅞-3⅞; 1 month 3⅞-3⅞
6 months 3⅞

Yen
7 days 6⅛-6½; call 6-5
3 months 5¹⁵⁄₁₆-5¹³⁄₁₆; 1 month 6⅛-6½
6 months 5¹¹⁄₁₆-5⁹⁄₁₆

GOLD

Krugerrand* (per coin): $342.75-344.25 (£234.50-235.75)
Sovereigns* (new): $81.50-82.50 (£55.75-56.50)
*Excludes VAT

ECGD

Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period January 8, 1986 to February 4, 1986 inclusive: 13.077 per cent.

Rates supplied by Barclays Bank HOFEX and Extel.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Open	High	Low	Close	Est Vol
Three Month Sterling					
March	87.86	87.97	87.71	87.97	2269
June	88.54	88.70	88.43	88.70	2568
Sept	89.10	89.12	88.95	89.24	360
Dec	89.30	89.62	89.30	89.62	240
Previous day's total open interest 10938					
Three Month Eurodollar					
		Previous day's total open interest 19858			
March	92.09	92.13	92.04	92.08	1122
June	92.11	92.20	92.02	92.15	4244
Sept	91.97	92.06	91.93	92.02	434
Dec	91.78	91.83	91.75	91.83	79
US Treasury Bond					
		Previous day's total open interest 4139			
March	88-11	89-00	87-24	88-16	9296
June	87-03	87-21	86-27	87-18	306
Sept	n/t				0
Short Gilt					
		Previous day's total open interest 1058			
March	96-45	96-50	06-30	96-47	504
June	n/t			97-13	0
Sept	n/t				0
Long Gilt					
		Previous day's total open interest 7830			
March	113-09	113-09	112-11	112-28	9205
June	113-16	113-20	113-00	113-11	871
Sept	n/t			113-31	0
FT-SE 100					
		Previous day's total open interest 2034			
March	150.20	150.20	148.90	149.50	433
June	151.20	151.50	150.75	151.20	14

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE
Rubber in p per kilo: Soyabean meal, coffee and cocoa in £ per tonne: Gas-oil and sugar in US$ per tonne.
G W Joynson and Co report

SUGAR (Raw) No 6
March 152.0-51.2
May 157.0-56.0
Aug 164.0-63.4
Oct 167.4-67.2
Dec unquoted
March unquoted
Vol: 545

SUGAR (White)
All months unquoted
Vol: Nil

COCOA
March 1616-14
May 1623-22
July 1649-48
Sept 1682-79
Dec 1717-13
March 1744-40
May 1762-50
Vol 4959

COFFEE
March 2482-2480
May 2550-2540
July 2615-2610
Sep 2684-2680
Nov 2740-2735
Jan 2780-2770
March 2830-2800
Vol: 7226

SOYABEAN
Feb unquoted
April 131.4-31.0
June 129.2-29.0
Aug 127.3-26.8
Oct 128.3-27.8
Dec 130.5-29.8
Feb 133.0-30.8
Vol 194

GAS OIL
March 169.25-63.00
April 150.50-50.25
May 143.50-43.00
June 140.50-40.25
July 142.00-41.50
Aug 144.50-44.00
Sept 147.00-44.00
Oct 151.00-44.00
Nov 155.00-44.00
Vol 15

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
Unofficial prices
Official Turnover figures
Price in £ per metric tonne
Silver in pence per troy ounce
Rudolf Wolf & Co. Ltd. report

COPPER HIGH GRADE
Cash 968.00-969.00
Three months 995.00-995.50
Vol 7950
Tone Easier

STANDARD CATHODES
Cash 955.00-958.00
Three Months 984.00-986.00
Vol 50
Tone Quiet

TIN
Cash Suspended
Three Months
Vol
Tone

LEAD
Cash 254.00-255.00
Three Months 264.50-265.00
Vol 1625
Tone Steady

Zinc Standard
Cash 395.00-400.00
Three Months
Vol Nil
Tone Idle

Zinc High Grade
Cash 410.00-411.00
Three Months 419.00-420.00
Vol 5750
Tone Easier

Silver Large
Cash 408.50-409.50
Three Months 420.50-421.50
Vol 28
Tone Quiet

Silver Small
Cash 408.50-409.50
Three Months 420.50-421.50
Vol Nil
Tone Idle

Aluminium
Cash 763.00-764.00
Three Months 790.00-791.00
Vol 11375
Tone Easier

Nickel
Cash 2743-2745
Three Months 2805-2807
Vol 444
Tone Easier

MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Average fatstock prices at representative markets on February 19
GB: Cattle, 96.17p per kg lw (-0.11)
GB: Sheep 187.67p per kg est d c w (+7.59)
GB: Pigs, 75.71p per kg lw (+1.55)
England and Wales: Cattle nos. up 14.2%, ave. price, 96.76p(-0.30) Sheep nos. up 2.4%, ave. price, 188.17p(-8.00) Pig nos. down 11.0%, ave. price, 75.71p(+1.56)
Scotland: Cattle nos. up 0.0%, ave. price 93.17p(+0.30) Sheep nos. up 38.6%, ave. price, 185.15p(+5.70) Pig nos. n/a %, ave. price. n/a

LONDON GRAIN FUTURES
£ per tonne

Month	Wheat Close	Barley Close
March	115.05	112.90
May	118.50	116.40
July	119.50	—
Sept	99.00	96.80
Nov	102.20	100.35
Jan	105.90	103.90

Volume: Wheat 834, Barley 248

LONDON MEAT FUTURES EXCHANGE
Live Pig Contract
p. per kilo
Month Open Close

Pig meat
p. per kilo

Month	Open	Close
March	unq'ted	unq'ted
April	103.7	103.3
May	102.8	102.3
June	102.0	102.0
July	101.3	100.8
Aug	100.7	100.5

Vol 0

LONDON POTATO FUTURES
£ per tonne

Month	Open	Close
April	89.00	88.10
May	96.00	95.00
Nov	75.80	75.80
Feb	84.10	84.30
April	96.40	96.30

Vol. 805

The prices on this page relate to Wednesday's trading.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1985 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
102	87	Atlas	102	● ..	3.1r	3.0	39.5
698	580	Alliance	695	+2	25.1n	3.8	33.1
155	118	Amer Trust	139	+1	4.3	3.1	35.0
307	245	Ang Amer Sec	307	..	8.1	2.6	55.3
180	123	Ashdown	180	● ..	4.4	2.8	50.5
120	88	Atlantic Assets	108		0.8	0.7	
110	83	Bankers	110	● +1	3.9r	3.5	41.4
194	152	Berry	178	+1	1.5	0.9	
57	47½	Br Assets	56½		2.7	4.8	31.6
33¼	25	Br Empire Sec	32	-½	0.7	2.2	43.8
380	312	Britsh Inv	380	+3	20.9r	5.5	23.3
85	64	Brunner	85	● ..	3.1r	3.6	38.6
89	72	Charter Agency	88	●	3.3r	3.8	37.9
695	525	Continental	690		30.0r	4.3	32.9
178	119	Crescent Japan	164	-1	0.5	0.3	
118	97	Derby Inc	115	●	12.0	10.4	13.7
127	95	Do Cap	115	..			
330	264	Drayton Cons	317		14.3	4.5	31.2
152	112	Drayton Far East	152		1.6	1.1	
508	348	Drayton Japan	508	+6	3.6n	0.7	
528	383	Drayton Premier	514		18.2	3.5	40.1
199	160	Dundee Lon	187	+1	7.7	4.1	33.3
118	89	Edin Amer Asset	109	+1	0.9	0.8	78.4
134	103	Edinburgh	134	+1½	4.6r	3.4	45.1
312	254	Electric Gen	312	+1	5.6r	1.8	70.9
142	114	English Int	141		5.0	3.5	41.7
81	65	English Scot	81	+1	1.9	2.3	57.9
122	91	English NY	122	..	3.6	3.0	48.0
126	85	Ensign	125		2.0	1.6	69.4
97	76	F & C Alliance	95	+1	2.5	2.6	53.7
166	122	F & C Pacific	166	+1	1.8r	1.1	37.2
248	186	Family	245	+2	11.3r	4.6	35.5
295	242	First Scot Amer	293	+1	12.9r	4.4	41.3
185	80	First Un Gen	120	..	8.7	7.3	10.1
590	415	Fleming American	528	● -2	8.2	1.6	91.1
303	235	Fleming Claver	299	● ..	14.5	4.8	28.8
298	233	Fleming Enterprise	290	● .	12.9	4.4	35.5
109	76	Fleming Far East	98	..	1.5	1.5	97.0
116	100	Fleming Fledgling	116	● ..	3.6	3.1	44.6
560	405	Fleming Japan	558	+8	5.7	1.0	
132	105	Fleming Mercantile	129½	+½	4.3	3.3	42.0
134	100	Fleming Overseas	129	● -1	3.9	3.0	42.7
163	120	Fleming Tech	150	-1	3.3	2.2	63.8
353	268	Fleming Universal	353	+1	7.1c	2.0	43.1
77½	59	For Col	77	..	2.0r	2.6	59.2
121	91	GBC Capital	100	+1			
185	115	GT Japan	143	● +3	2.0r	1.4	97.9
146	97	General Funds	145	..	2.9	2.0	69.4
295	230	General Cons	295	..	15.9r	5.4	25.9
125	103	Glasgow Stock	125	+1	3.3	2.6	51.0
322	251	Globe	322	+2	14.5	4.5	30.9
146	110	Govett Atlantic	134	-2	4.0	3.0	41.7
161	127	Govett Oriental	159	+1	3.3	2.1	60.0
203	152	Govett Strategy	203		5.1	2.5	57.7
270	202	Greenfriar	268	● +8	2.4	0.9	
275	220	Gresham House	230	.	6.3	2.7	28.4
178	138	Hambros	178	+1	6.1	3.4	41.5
282	226	Hill (P)	274	..	13.8	5.0	28.1
562	448	Investors Success	562		7.8	1.4	97.9
254	208	Inv Cap	247	● -1	6.6	2.7	62.7
62	41	Japan Assets	52	+½	0.1	0.2	
198	162	Law Debenture	198	+2	8.6r	4.3	29.1
86	58	Lon Merchant Sec	58	-2	3.2	5.5	14.9
89	66	Lon Trust	67	-1	6.1a	9.1	22.7
108	86	Merchants	107	.	5.4r	5.0	35.9
179	133	Monks	178		3.4r	1.9	79.5
136	108	Murray Income	135	+1	7.7	5.7	26.4
149	112	Murray Intl	149	+1	6.4n	4.3	33.1
246	163	Murray Small	246		3.9n	1.6	
333	268	Murray Venture	328	.	7.9	2.4	53.8
408	354	New Court	395		20.4	5.2	27.4
77	58	New Darien Oil	59	-1	0.5	0.8	
178	153	968	170	..	6.7	3.9	31.0
54	37	Nwthrog Inc 83	50½		4.2r	8.3	16.0
243	157	New Tokyo	218	+4	1.1	0.5	
324	246	Nth Atlantic Sec	313	.	4.9	1.6	87.2
123	70	Nth Sea Assets	70		0.7	1.0	81.4
309	227	New Amer	309	-3	7.7	2.5	56.5
153	125	Outwich	153	.	4.4	2.9	44.3
101	62	Pacific Assets	75	.	..		..
43	30	Do Wrnts	35	..			
46	32	Personal Assets	40		0.3	0.8	
367	292	Raeburn	344	● .	15.0	4.4	34.9
155	125	River & Merc	155	..	7.9r	5.1	30.8
244	198	River Plate	232		10.7	4.6	32.2
233	168	Robeco	222	-1	..		..
198	150	Rolinco	195	.			
290	228	Romney	276		6.8r	2.5	61.7
12¾	10	Rorento	£12⅝	..			
124	56	St Andrews	123		4.1	3.3	41.7
318	235	Scottish	314	-2	8.5	2.7	54.1
285	211	Scot American	282	..	9.4	3.3	39.4
97	73	Scot Eastern	97	+½	2.9	3.0	48.7
442	345	Scot Mtge	442	.	10.7r	2.4	54.5
259	204	Scot Nat	269	+3	6.9	2.6	50.4
418	354	Scot Merc 'A'	418	..	25.0	6.0	21.0
600	500	Second Alliance	600	+2	24.6n	4.1	30.8
145	108	Sec Of Scotland	145	+1	6.9r	4.8	34.4
78	61	Smaller Cos	74	+1	1.7r	2.3	42.8
38½	32	Stewart Enterc	38	.	0.6	1.6	
130	75	TR Australia	88	-1	3.1	3.5	31.3
104	76	TR City Of Lon Dfd	103	●	5.5r	5.4	28.9
173	137	TR Ind & Gen	172	+1	5.4r	3.1	45.6
255	197½	TR Natural Res	214	.	10.7	5.0	27.2
111	73	TR North America	98	+1	2.6r	2.7	48.7
148	111	TR Pacific Basin	137	+3	1.4r	1.0	
153	129	TR Property	153	+1	5.3	3.5	38.1
104	79	TR Tech	106	+1	2.5	2.4	56.8
152	124	TR Trustees	150	.	6.3r	4.2	35.0
147	111	Temple Bar	147	+2	7.8	5.2	26.3
264	211	Throgmorton	258	● +2	11.9	4.6	30.9
332	248	Throg Secured Cap	308	+2			
169	137	Trans Oceanic	168	● .	5.5	3.3	42.1
121	103	Tribune	121	..	3.9	3.2	34.7
82	72	Triplevest Inc	81		14.7	18.0	8.7
235	189	US Debenture	234	-1	9.3r	4.0	54.7
52	52	Viking Resources	52½	..	2.2r	4.2	41.7
86	61	Westpool	64	● -1	2.2	3.4	46.0
110	84	Winterbottom Energy	88	● -1	3.3	3.8	37.4
179	139	Witan	179	+1	4.2	2.3	63.9
300	259	Yeoman	330		13.7r	4.6	30.9

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
625	290	Akroyd & Smithers	615	+5	25.0	4.1	14.9
57½	29½	American Express	£43	-¼			
43	19	Argyle	35		1.4	4.0	18.7
95	35	Boustead	35	.	n		94.6
155	98	Britannia Arrow	141		8.0	4.3	16.0
17½	850	Daily Mail	£17½	● -½	69.3	4.0	12.4
17½	852	Do A	£17½	● -½	69.3	4.0	12.2
142	113	Electra	137	..	5.4	3.9	34.9
101	73	Eng Trust	101	●	4.0	4.0	14.0
248	176	Exco	219	+7	4.5	2.1	17.5
85	62	Exploration	78	+5	3.0	3.8	13.9
426	350	Framlington	425	-5	7.1	1.7	19.8
96	58	Frost Go	92	.	5.7	6.2	12.7
125	44	Goode D & M	96	●	2.5	2.6	26.7
11½	579	Henderson Admin	£11½		25.7r	2.2	16.5
186	162	ICH	181	+3	12.9	7.1	7.4
405	330	MAI	350	+5	22.9	6.5	9.2
875	368	M & G	780	●	21.4	2.7	23.7
369	217	Mercantile House	337	● +23	18.3	5.7	8.9
113	75	Pacific Inv Tst	88	.	0.5	0.6	80.7
41	16	Do Warrants	21	-½			
211	93	Smith Brothers	194	+10	9.3	4.8	22.6

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
ABBEY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 80 Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth BH8 8AL 0345 717373 (Linkline)				
Gilt & Fixed	111.0	117.4c	+0.3	10.22
High Inc Equity	83.7	89.0●	+0.4	5.56
Worldwide Bond	171.0	183.0●	-0.2	5.30
American Growth	148.3	157.7●	-0.1	1.87
Asian Pacific	42.6	45.7	-0.7	2.74
Assets & Earns	88.7	94.8	-0.4	1.74
Capital Reserve	61.2	61.5c	+0.2	..
Comm & Energy	64.6	69.1c	-1.6	1.22
European Capital	73.4	78.0	+0.5	1.92
General	125.9	134.3●	-0.6	3.16
Japan	59.3	63.4	+1.2	..
UK Growth Inc	84.6	89.8	-0.7	1.71
Do Accum	119.6	128.6	-0.3	..
US Emerging Co's	59.0	63.4	-0.1	0.41
Equitas Progress	181.3	193.0	-0.4	3.95
Mastertst Acc	54.9	58.3	-0.3	1.72
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TRUSTS Allied Dunbar Centre Swindon SN1 1EL 0793 610366 & 0793 28291				
First Trust	200.9	214.0c	-1.6	3.57
Growth & Income	121.9	129.8	+1.0	3.54
Capital Trust	214.1	228.0	+1.1	2.88
Balanced	325.6	346.7	+1.9	3.40
Accum Trust	498.8	531.2	+2.8	3.30
American Income	29.6	31.5●	+0.1	4.29
High Income Tst	223.2	237.7c	+1.5	5.05
Equity Income	119.6	127.4●	+0.7	5.14
High Yield	127.6	135.9	-0.5	6.10
Govt Secs Trust	29.6	29.8	+0.1	9.66
International	69.8	74.3●	+0.4	1.35
Japan Fund	74.9	79.8	+0.4	0.01
Pacific Trust	131.1	139.6	+0.1	1.28
Amer Spcl Sits	63.9	68.1	+0.2	1.20
Secs Of Amer Tst	195.9	208.6	+1.0	0.67
Ald Asset Value	200.4	213.4	+0.8	3.54
Gilt Growth	34.2	35.7	+0.2	3.17
Smaller Co's	106.2	113.1●	+0.2	2.30
2nd Smaller Co's	141.8	151.0	+0.5	2.66
Recovery Trust	70.8	75.4	+0.2	2.48
Met Min & Cmdty	81.0	86.3	-0.1	2.29
O'seas Earnings	170.7	181.8	-1.3	3.26
Technology Tst	89.4	95.2	+0.7	0.95
Income Exempt	110.6	117.2●	-0.2	6.08
Exempt Smaller Co's	200.2	212.2	+1.4	2.95
USA Exempt Trust	318.2	337.3	+1.7	1.42
ARBUTHNOT SECURITIES 131, Finsbury Pavement, London EC2A 1AY 01-628 9876 01-280 8540/1/2/3				
Capital Growth Inc	52.2	55.8	+0.3	1.90
Do Accum	58.4	62.4	+0.3	1.90
Eastern & Intl	104.4	111.6c	-1.1	1.79
Do 6% Wdrawal	57.6	61.5c	-0.6	1.79
Finance & Property	54.5	58.2	+0.3	2.49
Gilt & Fixed Income	45.0	47.3●	+0.2	9.21
Do Accum	74.4	78.3●	+0.3	9.21
High Income Income	64.8	69.3●	+0.2	5.88
Do Accum	150.3	160.7●	+0.2	5.88
High Yield Income	65.0	69.5c	..	8.55
Do Accum	165.8	177.3c	..	8.55
Intl Inc	66.0	69.5	-1.8	2.63
Do Acc	66.3	70.9	-1.7	2.63
Do 5% Wdrawal	63.0	67.3	-1.6	2.63
Managed Fund	55.7	58.7	+0.4	..
Preference Income	26.3	28.1	+0.1	11.50
Do Accum	81.9	87.5	+0.1	11.50
Smaller Co's Income	115.2	123.2	+1.0	1.70
Do Accum	124.2	132.8	+1.0	1.70
World Penny Share	8.9	9.5	..	1.43
Portfolio Tst UK	69.5	72.0	+3.2	1.75
Portfolio Tst Japan	70.5	73.0	-0.4	0.10
Portfolio Tst US	71.8	74.4	-0.3	1.07
Portfolio Tst Europe	88.6	91.8	+0.7	0.10
Portfolio Tst HK	41.5	43.0	-1.1	0.10
BAILLIE GIFFORD 3, Glenfinlas St, Edinburgh EH3 6YY 031-225 2581 (Dealers 031-226 6066)				
Intl Ex (22)	379.4	395.9	..	1.28
Japan Ex (43)	245.1	255.4●	..	0.34
UK Ex (31)	177.2	188.5	..	1.49
P'sal Pens Intl	368.8	388.2	..	..
P'sal Pens UK	147.1	154.9	..	..
BG America	151.9	161.6	-1.4	0.59
BG Energy	110.8	117.8	+0.7	1.72
BG Income Grwth	168.6	179.4c	+0.7	5.46
BG Japan	127.8	136.0	+0.1	0.00
BG Technology	163.7	174.2	-0.2	1.94
BALTIC TRUST MANAGERS 25/26 Albemarle Street, London W1X 4AD 01-491 0295				
American	48.8	52.2●	+0.2	0.8
Australian	18.2	19.5	..	2.9
Japan & General	75.4	80.7	-0.3	0.2
High Income	41.0	43.9	+0.5	8.1
International Trust	69.8	74.7	-0.6	1.1
Income Gilt Tst	42.9	45.9●	..	4.5
Gilts & Fixed Int	65.5	70.0c	-0.3	6.0
Global Markets	33.2	35.6	-0.2	2.1
Special Situations	40.8	43.7	-0.1	1.5
BARCLAYS UNICORN Unicorn House, 252, Romford Rd E7 01-534 5544				
America	82.6	87.8	-0.1	2.39
Aust Accum	132.0	140.4	-0.9	1.76
Do Income	94.3	100.3	-0.6	1.76
Capital	62.8	66.8●	+0.6	3.27
Exempt Trust	385.9	410.5	+1.2	4.10
Extra Income	65.9	69.7	+0.4	5.80
Financial	208.2	221.4	+1.3	3.47
500	232.9	247.7●	-1.8	3.49
General	126.6	134.6	+0.7	3.31
Gilt & Fixed Inc	50.7	53.0●	+0.4	10.28
Japan & Gen Inc	121.3	129.0	-0.1	0.63
Do Acc	122.5	130.3	-0.1	0.63
Growth Accum	162.7	173.0	+1.2	2.68
Income Trust	296.0	314.8●	+1.7	3.89
Leisure Trust	73.9	78.6●	+0.6	1.74
Special Situations	125.3	133.2	-0.9	2.70
Recovery	167.8	178.5	+1.0	2.86
Trustee Fund	97.3	103.5	+0.9	3.23
Univ Tech Accum	48.7	51.8	+0.5	0.60
Do Income	48.4	51.4	+0.4	0.60
Worldwide Trust	134.8	143.4●	+0.9	1.17
'B' Tst Inv Fund Acc	286.9	305.2	+2.2	3.63
Do Inc	188.1	200.1	+1.5	3.63
BARING FUND MANAGERS PO Box 156, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4XQ 01-658 9002				
Australia	49.8	53.0	+0.5	0.80
Eastern	43.8	46.8c	-0.9	0.80
Europe	91.7	98.0a	+1.4	0.90
Growth & Inc	57.2	61.4a	+0.4	2.30
Do Accum	86.2	92.6a	+0.6	2.30
First Japan	60.5	64.6	-0.5	0.30
Japan Special	74.0	79.1●	-0.4	0.30
Japan Sunrise	72.8	77.8	-0.6	0.30
First Smaller Co's	58.6	63.0a	+1.6	2.70
First Europe	82.9	88.6	+0.8	0.80
First N Amer	48.0	51.3	-0.1	3.40
BARRINGTON MANAGEMENT 59, Gresham St, London EC2P 2DS 01-606 4433				
Planned Inv	107.2	114.1	..	2.56
European Inc	75.6	79.5a	-0.2	1.39
Do Accum	92.7	97.2a	-0.3	1.39
General Inc	137.2	146.0●	+0.8	3.67
Do Accum	185.6	197.7●	+0.9	3.67
Gilt Yield Inc	109.3	111.6	+0.4	9.96
Do Accum	167.3	172.4	+0.6	9.98
High Yield Inc	74.7	79.5	+0.6	6.31
Do Accum	145.5	154.8	+1.1	6.31
Japan Income	179.8	191.3	+0.1	0.30
Do Accum	180.4	192.0	..	0.30
N American Inc	45.6	48.5	-0.4	1.03
Do Accum	52.7	56.1	-0.4	1.03
Pacific Income	105.8	112.2	-0.8	0.54
Do Accum	118.7	124.9	-0.8	0.54
Smlr Co's Inc	66.0	70.3	+0.2	2.27
Do Accum	77.7	82.7	+0.3	2.27
BRITANNIA UNIT TRUST 74-78 Finsbury Pavement London EC2A 1JD 01-588 2777 Dealing 01-638 0478/9 MoneyGuide 0800-010-333				
Growth Gilt	56.2	57.1	+0.2	0.65
Intl Recovery	95.1	101.4	..	2.21
Smaller Co's	124.9	133.2●	-0.5	1.58
UK Growth	35.2	37.5	..	2.10
Extra Inc	55.5	59.2●	+0.1	7.67
Gilt	25.2	26.5	+0.1	7.87
Inc & Growth	184.0	196.3	+0.9	4.48
Nat High Inc	181.4	193.5	+0.9	4.95
Pref Shares	18.4	19.6●	..	10.04
Commodity	127.9	136.4	-0.3	2.82
Financial Secs	40.3	43.0	+0.2	2.40
Gold & Gen	19.2	20.7	+0.5	2.95
Int Leisure	15.5	16.5	-0.1	0.71
Prop Shares	54.2	57.8c	+0.6	1.48
Univ Energy	40.2	42.9●	-0.7	0.91
World Tech	43.8	46.7	-0.1	0.67
Amer Growth	95.6	102.0c	-0.1	3.27
Amer Income	56.9	60.7	-0.1	5.91
Amer Smaller Co's	23.8	25.4	..	1.88
Aust Growth	64.4	68.7	-0.6	0.52
Euro Smaller	13.0	13.9	..	0.42
Far East	37.0	39.5	-0.2	1.21
Hong Kong Prf	23.5	25.1●	-0.6	3.71
Intl Growth	31.8	33.9	-0.2	2.08
Japan Perf	45.4	48.4●	+0.3	..
Japan Smaller	13.5	14.4	+0.3	..
Exempt	72.8	78.2	+0.3	3.95
Exempt Market	64.7	67.7	..	4.14
BROWN SHIPLEY 9-17, Perrymount Rd, Haywards Heath 0444 458144				
BS Fund Income	53.8	57.8●	+0.4	4.28
Do Accum	90.2	96.5●	+0.6	..
Financial	108.8	117.0●	-1.0	2.12
Growth Accum	171.5	183.5	+0.8	..
Do Income	110.6	118.4	+0.6	2.01
High Income	58.4	62.8c	+0.3	7.04
Income	68.4	73.6	+0.1	5.84
North American	57.2	61.5	+0.4	1.20
Orient	60.8	65.4	+0.3	0.20
Recovery	31.6	33.8	+0.2	3.31
Technology	134.8	144.9	-0.5	0.60
German	30.0	32.0	+1.0	2.00
BUCKMASTER MANAGEMENT The Stock Exchange London EC2P 2JT 01-588 2868				
General Inc (4)	185.3	194.5	..	4.12
Do Accum (4)	291.9	306.3	..	4.12
Income Fund (3)	89.8	94.7	+3.2	4.83
Do Accum (3)	154.3	162.5	+5.3	4.83
Intl Inc (2)	110.2	115.1●	..	2.35
Do Accum (2)	145.8	152.2●	..	2.35
Smaller Inc (5)	924.4	988.9	..	2.80
Do Accum (5)	976.1	1044.2	..	2.80
CS FUND MANAGERS 125, High Holborn, London WC1V 6PY 01-242 1148				
CS Japan Fund	60.8	64.7	+0.7	0.33
CANNON FUND MANAGERS 1, Olympic Way, Wembley, HA9 0NB 01-902 8876				
Growth	252.6	268.7	..	3.47
Income	289.0	307.4	..	4.95
Far East	144.5	153.1	..	0.67
North American	136.1	144.8	..	0.82
CAPEL (JAMES) MANAGEMENT 100, Old Broad St, London EC2N 1BQ 01-621 0011				
Capital (3)	320.9	337.8	+6.0	1.94
Income (3)	250.8	264.1	+7.1	5.04
North American (3)	257.7	271.3	+2.1	1.46
CATER ALLEN 1 King William St. EC4N 7AU 01-623 6314				
Gilt Trust	97.2	103.4●	+0.4	11.74
CENTRAL BOARD OF FINANCE OF CHURCH OF ENG 77 London Wall EC2 1DB 01-588 1815				
Inv Fund	366.05		..	4.84
Fixed Int	132.55		..	10.79
Deposit	..		..	11.70
CHARITIES OFFICIAL INVESTMENT FUND 77 London Wall, London EC2N 1DB 01-588 1815				
Income	328.86	c	..	5.38
Accum	931.77			
CLERICAL MEDICAL UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH 0272 277719				
General Equity	34.0	36.2	+0.2	..
Equity High Income	36.2	38.6c	+0.2	..
Gilt & Fixed Int Gth	26.6	28.3	-0.1	..
Index Securities	23.5	25.0	+0.1	..
COUNTY BANK UNIT TRUSTS 161, Cheapside, London EC2V 6EU 01-726 1999				
Capital Accum	254.6	270.8	+0.7	1.68
Energy Trust	40.6	43.1●	-0.3	5.91
Extra Income	144.1	153.2	+0.7	5.69
Financial	133.0	141.4●	+0.6	2.62
Gilt Strategy	54.8	56.2	-0.1	1.60
Growth Investment	254.0	270.2●	+1.3	2.79
Income & Growth	36.4	38.7●	..	4.93
Japanese & Pacific	107.0	113.8	+2.7	0.01
Nth Amer Growth	95.8	101.9	+0.7	1.76
Intl Recovery	100.3	106.7●	-0.3	3.06
Smaller Co's	181.3	192.8●	+0.4	2.53
Global Inc Tst	51.3	54.5	-0.1	6.38
CROWN UNIT TRUST SERVICES Crown House, Woking GU21 1XW 04862 5033				
High Income Trust	208.3	220.6	+0.5	5.80
Growth Trust	199.2	213.0●	+1.5	3.38
American Trust	123.0	131.5	+0.5	0.79
EFM UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 4, Melville Crescent, Edinburgh 031-226 3492				
American Fund	66.0	70.6	..	2.41
Capital Fund	77.7	83.1	..	2.05
Growth & Inc Fund	117.0	125.2●	-0.1	4.59
High Dist Fund	92.9	99.4	..	6.79
International Fund	170.0	181.9	..	1.24
Resources Fund	19.6	20.9	..	2.15
Smlr Jap Co's Fnd	27.5	29.5	..	0.10
Tokyo Fund	118.5	126.7	..	0.20
(Ex) Amer (2)	133.7	138.1	..	2.17
(Ex) Japan (3)	80.8	83.4	..	0.29
(Ex) Pacific (4)	213.0	219.9c	..	1.83
(Ex) Smaller Jap (4)	163.0	168.3	..	0.10
Eurofund	23.2	24.8	..	4.03
EAGLE STAR UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Bath Road, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL53 7LQ 0242 521311				
UK Balanced Inc	59.8	63.8	+0.7	3.13
Do Accum	59.8	63.8	+0.7	3.13
UK Growth Accum	64.1	68.4	+0.6	1.83
UK High Inc Inc	58.1	62.0	+0.4	5.65
N American Accum	61.3	65.4	-0.1	1.53
Far Eastern Accum	60.1	64.1	+0.3	0.78
European Accum	65.2	69.5	-1.0	1.26
UK Gilt & FI Inc	49.5	52.8	+0.2	9.47
Do Accum	49.5	52.8	+0.2	9.47
EQUITABLE UNITS ADMINISTRATION 35 Fountain St, Manchester 061-236 5685				
Equitable Pelican	67.6	72.0	..	3.55
High Income Trust	64.5	68.7	+0.1	5.68
Gilt & Fixed Int	48.8	52.0●	+0.2	9.17
Tst Of Inv Trusts	59.0	62.8●	+0.2	1.93
Special Sits Trust	64.0	73.5	-0.1	2.56
Nth Amer Trust	53.1	56.5	-0.3	1.97
Far Eastern Trust	61.0	64.9	-0.3	0.83
EQUITY & LAW St George Hse Corporation St, Coventry CV1 1GD 0203 553231				
UK Growth Accum	133.0	141.4	+0.6	3.68
Do Income	117.0	124.4	+0.5	3.68
Higher Inc Accum	210.1	223.5	+0.5	5.07
Do Income	172.0	182.9	+0.4	5.07
Gilts/Fixed Accum	93.4	98.3	+0.2	2.94
Do Income	81.0	85.2	+0.6	2.84
Nth Amer Tst Accum	131.0	139.3	+0.2	0.32
Far East Tst Accum	109.3	116.2	+0.3	0.75
Euro Tst Accum	130.3	138.6	+2.1	0.91
General Trust	210.3	223.7	+1.0	2.98
F & C UNIT MANAGEMENT 1 Laurence Pountney Hill, London EC4R 0BA 01-623 4680				
American Fund	71.9	76.9	-0.1	0.27
Capital Fund	103.0	110.2	+0.1	0.42
Income Fund	70.3	75.2	+0.4	5.21
Far Eastern Fund	61.5	66.3	-0.2	0.41
Overseas Income	62.9	67.3	+0.2	4.08
Fixed Interest	53.6	57.0	+0.2	9.86
Natural Res Fund	45.0	48.2	-0.4	4.12
European Income	60.1	64.3●	+0.5	3.82
FIDELITY INTERNATIONAL River Walk, Tonbridge, TN9 1DY 0732 362222				
American	94.5	101.1	-0.1	0.82
Amer Equity Income	30.8	33.0●	..	5.11
Amer Special Sits	47.6	50.7	-0.4	0.48
Far East Inc	28.7	30.6	-0.1	3.39
Gilt & Fixed Int	28.5	29.7	+0.1	9.80
Growth & Income	87.3	93.4	+0.1	4.76
Japan Special Sits	30.7	32.7●	+0.3	..
Japan Trust	89.2	94.9	+0.1	..
Managed Intl Tst	116.7	124.9	+0.6	0.30
Max Income Equity	66.9	72.0c	..	5.60
Professional Gth	29.9	31.9●	+0.2	2.72
South East Asia Tst	26.2	27.9	-0.7	0.23
Special Sits	130.2	140.0	..	1.26
FLEMING (ROBERT) 8, Crosby Sq, London EC3A 6AN 01-638 5858				
American Exempt	£349.5	357.2	..	1.39
Japan Exempt	£288.7	297.7e	..	1.41
Am Property Tst	$10795.0		..	7.75
Property Trust	£2087.0		..	6.10
FRAMLINGTON MANAGEMENT 3, London Wall Bldgs, London Wall, London EC2M 5NQ 01-628 5181				
Amer & Gen Inc	222.2	236.2	-2.1	0.57
Do Accum	226.8	241.2	-2.3	0.57
Amer Turnarnd Inc	209.4	222.6	-2.5	1.21
Do Accum	216.0	229.6	-2.5	1.21
Capital Tst Inc	181.2	192.6	+0.8	3.06
Do Accum	216.2	229.8	+1.0	3.06
Conv & Gilt Inc	80.2	85.2	+0.2	6.23
Do Accum	104.8	111.4	+0.2	6.23
Extra Inc Tst Inc	136.8	145.4●	+0.6	4.99
Do Accum	145.6	154.8●	+0.8	4.99
Income Trust	103.8	110.4	+0.5	4.63
Do Accum	107.6	114.4	+0.6	4.63
Intl Growth Fd Inc	151.0	160.6	-1.2	0.00
Do Accum	167.8	178.4	-1.2	0.00
Japan & Gen Inc	65.4	69.4●	-0.9	0.18
Do Accum	66.2	70.4●	-0.8	0.18
Monthly Income Fd	67.0	71.2●	+0.4	5.26
Recovery	117.6	125.0●	+0.4	2.04
Do Accum	127.2	135.2●	+0.6	2.04
FRIENDS PROVIDENT MANAGERS Pixham End, Dorking, Surrey 0306 885055				
FP Equity Dist	183.5	194.1	+1.0	2.90
Do Accum	302.9	320.5	+1.6	2.90
FP Fixed Int Dist	105.4	112.7	+0.7	6.37
Do Accum	117.5	125.6	+0.8	6.37
Stewardship Dist	150.1	158.8	+0.7	2.32
Do Accum	154.4	163.3	+0.8	2.32
FUNDS IN COURT Public Trustee, Kingsway, WC2 01-405 4300				
Capital	304.3	314.7	..	3.04
Gross Inc	133.0	137.8	..	8.42
High Yield	190.1	196.5●	..	6.53
GT UNIT MANAGERS 8th Floor, 8, Devonshire Sq, London EC2M 4YJ 01-283 2575 Dealing 01-626 9431				
UK Cap Fnd Inc	86.3	92.3●	-0.4	2.60
Do Accum	122.9	131.5●	-0.5	2.60
Income Fund	73.1	78.2c	-0.3	5.80
Pension Exempt	145.0	151.9●	+0.9	2.40
International	134.9	144.3c	-1.0	1.00
US & General	55.5	59.4	-0.1	1.40
Tech & Growth	66.4	71.1	-0.3	1.00
Japan & General	164.3	175.8	..	0.30
Far East & Gen	74.5	79.7	-1.3	1.00
European Fund	208.5	223.0●	+0.1	0.70
Germany Fund	61.4	65.7	+1.2	1.00
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS 2, St Mary Axe, London EC3A 8BP 01-623 1212 Dealing 01-623 5766 Dealing 01-623 5806				
American Trust	82.0	88.4	..	0.00
Australian Trust	19.3	20.5	..	0.42
British Tst Accum	50.2	54.0c	-0.1	2.30
Do Dist	44.1	47.4●	-0.1	2.30
Commodity Share	54.9	58.4	-0.1	1.31
European Trust	43.1	46.2●	+0.6	0.71
Extra Income Trust	42.6	45.6	..	5.50
Far Eastern Trust	93.0	99.4	+0.5	0.43
Fixed Interest Fund	24.6	26.2●	+0.1	10.38
Gilt Trust	25.5	26.5	+0.1	10.01
Global Fund Accum	140.8	148.8	+0.7	0.26
Do Dist	133.9	142.5	+0.5	0.26
Gold Share Trust	12.7	13.5	..	2.17
Hedged American	28.6	30.6	+0.5	0.10
High Income Trust	120.7	129.1●	-0.4	5.69
Hong Kong Trust	26.2	28.0●	-0.4	0.90
Income Fund	64.1	68.6●	+0.6	3.81
Insurance Agencies	£41.79	45.01	+0.20	2.25
Japan Trust	101.8	108.3	+0.8	0.00
Managed Exempt	242.2	252.3	+0.3	3.36
Oil & Energy Trust	31.1	33.1●	-1.0	1.08
Special Sits Trust	79.2	84.8	..	1.16
UK Smlr C's Rec Tst	61.3	65.6	-0.1	1.07
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MANAGEMENT Winchester Hse 77, London Wall, London EC2N 1DA 01-588 5620				
Intl Growth	70.2	75.0	+0.5	1.84
American Growth	59.8	63.5	-0.3	1.63
American Inc	65.5	70.0c	-0.3	6.08
European Growth	166.8	178.1	+2.3	0.25
Gold & Minerals	43.2	46.1	..	1.84
Japan Growth	117.0	125.1	+2.9	0.22
Pacific Income	61.5	66.7	-0.1	4.20
UK Special Opps	73.2	78.7●	+0.4	2.30
GRE UNIT MANAGERS Royal Exchange, EC3P 3DN 01-888 9903				
Gilt & Fixed Int	115.4	119.9c	..	9.58
Growth Equity	189.1	201.2	+0.8	2.32
Guardian	275.3	285.2●	+2.3	3.14
N American	133.5	142.1	-0.4	2.11
Pacific	158.9	169.1	-0.5	0.59
Property Share	212.1	225.7●	+1.7	1.63
Smaller Companies	184.5	196.3	-0.8	1.88
European Trust	194.8	207.3	+0.1	0.99
GUINNESS MAHON UNIT TRUST MANAGERS PO Box 442, 32 St Mary-at-Hill, London EC3P 3AJ 01-623 9333				
High Income	49.1	52.7●	+0.1	6.81
N Amer Trust	112.9	120.1	-0.5	0.82
Recovery	164.1	174.8	+0.1	2.85
Gilt Trust	36.5	37.9●	+0.3	9.88
St Vincent Inc	74.3	78.7●	+0.1	6.10
St Vincent US Gth	72.2	75.2●	+0.2	0.79
Temple Bar Sm Co's	141.7	149.5	..	3.85
HAMBROS BANK UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Premier UT Admin, 5, Rayleigh Rd, Brentwood Essex 0277 217916				
Hambros Smllr Co's	107.1	113.9●	+0.6	2.27
Habros N Amer	66.1	70.3	+0.5	0.94
Hambros Jap & F E	87.6	93.2	..	0.48
Hambros Scandvn	68.2	72.5	+0.3	1.06
Hambros European	86.0	91.5	+1.9	1.01
Hambros Canadian	42.7	45.4	-0.3	1.76
Hambros Equity Inc	74.2	78.9	+0.7	4.39
Hambros High Inc	52.5	55.8	+0.4	6.02
Hambros Res Assts	51.9	55.2●	+0.3	3.22
HENDERSON ADMINISTRATION Premier UT Administration 5, Rayleigh Rd, Hutton Brentwood Essex 0277-217238				
Special Sits Inc	115.7	123.8c	+0.8	1.05
Do Accum	162.1	173.4c	+0.8	1.05
Recovery Trust	85.8	91.8●	+0.1	2.65
Capital Growth Inc	50.6	54.1	+0.4	1.37
Do Accum	57.8	61.8	+0.4	1.37
Income Assets	99.3	106.8c	+0.5	4.08
Financial Trust	117.3	125.5	+1.1	2.49
Income & Growth Inc	126.8	136.3	+0.8	3.18
Do Accum	243.4	261.7	+1.1	3.18
High Income Trust	152.7	163.4●	+0.9	5.03
Extra Income	141.9	152.6	+0.6	5.14
Smaller Cos Div	88.9	95.1●	+0.4	5.67
Pref & Gilt	45.0	48.2	..	10.39
Gilt Trust	41.8	44.3●	+0.1	9.82
Fixed Interest Trust	53.3	57.0	+0.3	9.78
Global Healthcare	60.7	64.3	-0.3	0.01
Global Tech	106.3	112.7●	-0.1	0.22
Gold	41.6	44.3c	..	1.51
International	148.1	159.3	+1.9	0.38
Global Resources	64.0	68.5●	+0.3	1.85
Worldwide (5)	319.9	336.7	..	3.38
Australian	61.6	65.9	..	0.95
European	200.9	211.5	+2.2	0.81
Euro Smaller Cos	73.4	77.3	..	0.09
Japan Trust	111.0	117.7●	+1.7	0.46
Japan Special Sits	113.5	120.3	+2.3	0.01
Pacific Smaller Cos	58.8	62.3	-0.3	0.59
Singapore & Malay	25.1	26.9●	..	2.23
North American	136.3	147.2●	+0.5	0.45
Amer Smaller Cos	49.6	53.6	-0.4	0.01
Amer Recovery Tst	117.8	127.2	+1.2	1.39
High Income Exempt	108.1	113.8c	+0.3	5.42
Smaller Cos Exempt	105.6	111.2	+0.1	2.96
Euro Exempt	96.9	102.0	+0.8	1.64
Japan Exempt (5)	103.9	109.4●	+0.1	0.97
N Amer	84.8	89.3	+0.4	1.16
Global Tech Ex (5)	88.2	92.8	+1.0	0.15
Pacific Exempt (5)	146.9	154.6	-3.1	1.25
HILL SAMUEL UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 45, Beech St, EC2P 2LX 01-628 8011				
British Trust Units	486.3	517.4	+2.8	3.30
Capital Trust Units	90.6	96.4●	+0.3	2.87
Dollar Trust Units	178.0	189.4	-1.4	3.11
European Trust	102.9	109.5●	+0.2	0.90
Far East Trust	97.3	103.6	-1.8	2.29
Financial Trust	329.7	347.8	+2.4	2.65
Gilt Fixed Int Inc	27.7	28.8c	..	10.16
Do Growth	39.4	41.7●	..	3.35
High Yield Trust	55.4	59.0	..	5.86
Income Trust	70.4	74.9	+0.1	5.22
International	107.7	114.6●	-0.8	3.06
Japan Tech Tst	30.7	32.7●	-0.5	0.45
Natural Resources	29.0	30.9	-0.1	2.46
Security Trust	168.5	177.2	+1.2	3.29
Smaller Cos	71.2	75.8	+0.2	1.72
Special Sits	85.8	91.1c	+0.7	2.88
IBI FUND MANAGERS 32, Queen Annes Gate, London SW1H 9AB 01-222 1000				
IBI Brit & O'seas	122.3	130.2	+1.3	1.90
IBI High Income	54.4	57.3	..	9.00
IBI Security Gilt	54.9	57.8	+0.1	2.00
Investment Tst Fnd	61.4	64.7	..	3.50
KLEINWORT BENSON 20 Fenchurch St, London EC3 01-623 8000				
Amer Growth Inc	63.0	66.8●	-0.3	1.10
Do Accum	64.4	68.3●	-0.3	..
Fund Inv Tst Inc	17.1	18.5c	-0.7	2.74
Do Accum	21.5	23.2a	-0.9	..
High Yield Inc	113.0	119.8	+0.6	5.94
Do Accum	182.7	193.7	+1.1	..
Intl Recovery Inc	86.9	92.1	-0.5	1.75
Do Accum	90.9	96.4	-0.5	..
Japan Growth Inc	67.4	72.1	+1.0	..
Do Accum	67.7	72.4	+1.0	..
Smaller Co's Inc	133.8	144.5	+1.0	2.09
Do Accum	173.2	187.1	+1.2	..
UK Eq Growth Inc	25.2	26.7a	..	1.66
Do Accum	41.3	43.8a	..	..
Worldwide Tech Inc	40.0	42.8●	..	0.09
Do Accum	40.1	42.9	+0.2	..
L & C UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT Percy House, Copthall Ave, EC2R 7BE 01-588 2800				
Income Fund	370.4	378.0●	..	5.80
International & Gen	218.7	223.2●	..	0.88
LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 5, Rayleigh Road, Brentwood Essex 0277 234634				
Equity Distribution	247.9	265.1c	+1.5	2.30
Do Accum	383.6	410.3c	+2.3	2.30
Do Income	54.0	57.8●	+0.2	5.19
European	59.6	63.7●	+0.5	1.30
Far Eastern	61.1	65.4	..	0.61
Gilt Trust	71.5	75.7	+0.1	8.20
Intl Managed	66.7	71.3	+0.2	1.28
Natural Res	44.1	47.2	..	3.73
N American Trust	70.2	75.1●	-0.1	3.88
UK Special Sits	53.7	57.4	+0.4	2.36
LLOYDS BANK UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Registrar's Dept, Goring-By-Sea, Worthing, W Sussex 0444 459144				
Balanced	166.4	177.9	+0.9	3.17
Do Accum	293.1	313.4	+1.6	3.17
Energy Inc	45.3	48.4●	..	3.92
Do Accum	50.0	53.4	..	3.92
Extra Income	139.7	149.4	-0.9	5.61
Do Accum	247.0	264.1	+1.6	5.61
German Gth Inc	57.1	61.0	+1.9	0.30
Do Accum	57.1	61.0	+1.9	0.30
Income	236.8	253.2	+1.0	4.75
Do Accum	459.5	491.4	+1.8	4.75
Intl Tech	169.0	180.7	-0.2	0.58
Do Accum	176.3	188.5	+0.3	0.58
Japan Growth	53.2	56.8	+0.5	0.02
Do Accum	53.2	56.8	+0.5	0.02
N Amer & Gen	96.9	103.6●	+0.1	1.06
Do Accum	104.2	111.4	+0.1	1.06
Pacific Basin	96.3	102.9●	+0.2	0.37
Do Accum	100.5	107.4●	+0.1	0.37
Smaller Cos & Rec	160.0	171.1	+0.3	2.04
Do Accum	175.3	190.6	-1.1	2.04
Worldwide Growth	163.2	174.5	-1.1	1.24
Do Accum	228.4	244.2	-1.5	1.24
LLOYDS LIFE UNIT TRUST 20, Clifton St, London EC2A 4MX 01-920 0311				
Equity Dist	100.0	108.4	+0.6	1.66
Do Accum	139.4	148.4	-0.8	1.66
Gilt Trust	48.8	51.4	+0.1	4.86
Do Accum	52.2	55.0	+0.1	4.86
High Income Dist	79.1	84.2	+0.4	5.04
Do Accum	90.7	96.5	+0.4	5.04
US Growth	52.8	56.2e	-0.2	1.17
Do Accum	53.2	56.5c	-0.3	1.17
LONDON & MANCHESTER Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS 0392 52155				
General Trust	39.0	41.8	+0.1	3.80
Income Trust	32.5	34.8c	+0.1	6.50
International Trust	28.2	30.2	+0.1	1.00
M & G SECURITIES Three Quays, Tower Hill EC3R 6BQ 01-626 4588				
Amer & Gen Inc	212.6	225.4●	-0.2	1.73
Do Accum	246.4	261.2●	-0.2	1.73
Amer Recovery	238.3	252.6	-0.6	1.68
Do Accum	258.4	273.9	-0.5	1.68
Am Smaller Cos	57.6	61.1●	-0.6	1.05
Do Accum	58.7	62.2●	-0.6	1.05
Aust & Gen Inc	69.1	73.9●	-0.9	1.09
Do Accum	75.3	80.6●	-0.9	1.09
Comm & Gen Inc	152.8	163.5●	-0.4	3.06
Do Accum	199.5	213.5●	-0.4	3.06
Compound Growth	364.9	390.4	+1.8	3.50
Conversion Growth	298.0	315.9●	+0.1	2.66
Do Inc	162.1	171.8●	+0.8	6.83
Dividend Fund Inc	357.7	379.2	+1.5	5.14
Do Accum	£10.33	10.95	+0.04	5.14
European & General	163.6	173.4	-1.8	1.32
Do Accum	194.8	206.5	-2.1	1.32
Extra Yield Inc	191.6	203.1	+0.7	6.08
Do Accum	403.7	427.9	+1.4	6.08
Far Eastern Inc	108.5	116.1c	-1.9	2.04
Do Accum	131.1	140.3	-2.3	2.04
Fund Of Inv Inc	212.5	225.3	+0.5	2.82
Do Acc	330.2	350.0	+0.8	2.82
General Income	539.9	572.3●	+2.5	4.10
Do Accum	£11.30	11.97●	+0.05	4.10
Gilt & Fixed Inc	57.0	59.6●	+0.5	9.63
Do Accum	85.0	89.2	+0.9	9.63
Gold Income	40.3	43.5●	-0.1	2.87
Do Accum	42.3	45.7	-0.1	2.87
High Income Inc	274.5	291.0	+1.5	5.62
Do Accum	728.1	771.8	+3.5	5.62
Intl Growth Inc	677.4	724.8●	-0.7	2.25
Do Accum	£10.80	11.56●	-0.01	2.25
Intl Inc Inc	53.9	57.1	-0.3	5.27
Japan & Gen Inc	564.9	601.8	+1.8	0.08
Do Accum	605.0	644.3	+1.9	0.08
Japan Smaller Acc	74.6	79.4	+0.1	0.03
Midland & Gen Inc	477.5	508.1	+0.8	4.40
Do Accum	£11.71	12.42	+0.02	4.40
Recovery Fund Inc	295.1	312.8●	-0.4	3.42
Do Accum	378.2	400.9	-0.8	3.42
Second Gen Inc	607.5	643.9	+3.3	3.70
Do Accum	£11.85	12.56	+0.06	3.70
Smaller Cos Inc	577.6	618.0●	+2.3	2.80
Do Accum	901.5	964.6●	+3.4	2.80
Trustee Fund Inc	401.4	429.5	+3.0	4.34
Do Accum	£11.33	12.13	+0.08	4.34
Charibond Inc (3)	105.7	●	+1.8	11.74
Do Accum (3)	321.4	●	+5.8	11.74
Charifund Inc (2)	334.6	338.0●	..	6.15
Do Accum (2)	862.5	871.2●	..	6.15
Pension Exempt (1)	406.8	425.2	..	4.73
NAACIF Inc (3)	34.8	●	+0.6	9.08
Do Accum (3)	407.1	●	+7.3	9.08
MIM UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 11, Devonshire Sq, London EC2M 4YR 01-623 4273				
Equity Exempt	353.9	369.6	+1.6	2.74
Do Accum	443.3	463.0	+2.1	2.74
UK Market Features	60.3	64.3	+0.1	2.16
Do Accum	61.5	65.6	+0.1	2.16
Japan Performance	94.8	101.1	+0.2	0.14
Do Accum	95.2	101.5	+0.3	0.14
US Special Features	62.1	66.2	-0.3	0.84
Do Accum	62.5	66.7	-0.4	0.84
Gold & Precious Met	40.2	43.6c	-0.2	1.98
Do Accum	41.1	44.7c	-0.2	1.98
US Special Inc	54.8	58.4●	-0.1	5.46
Do Accum	58.1	62.0●	-0.1	5.46
European Perf Inc	67.9	72.2c	+1.1	0.97
Do Accum	67.9	72.2c	+1.1	0.97
MLA UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT 99-100, Sandling Rd Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX 0622 674751				
MLA General	30.1	31.8	+0.2	2.35
MLA International	46.5	49.2	-0.4	1.07
MLA Gilt Unit	22.5	23.8●	+0.1	10.92
MLA Income	35.1	37.2●	+0.2	5.37
MLA European	25.1	26.6	+0.2	0.93
MANULIFE MANAGEMENT St Georges Way, Stevenage Herts 0438 356101				
Growth Units	66.1	70.2	+0.6	3.16
Gilt & Fixed Int	102.7	105.7●	+2.5	8.17
High Income Units	100.4	106.7	+1.4	6.07
High Yield Gilt Uts	51.8	53.6●	+0.5	11.33
Intl Growth Units	104.7	111.3	-0.4	0.41
N American Units	66.2	70.3	-0.2	0.55
Far East Units	75.1	79.8	+1.0	0.46
Smaller Cos Fund	59.1	62.8	+0.3	1.49
MENCAP UNIT TRUST Unicorn Hse, 252, Romford Rd, E7 01-234 5544				
Mencap	122.4	130.2	+1.4	4.42
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD 33, King William St, EC4R 9AS 01-280 2860				
Amer Growth	92.8	98.7	-0.5	1.81
Do Accum	96.0	102.1	-0.5	1.81
Amer Income	47.2	50.2	-0.1	4.90
Do Accum	48.4	51.4	-0.2	4.90
European Growth	105.2	111.9	-0.4	1.41
Do Accum	108.1	114.9	-0.4	1.41
General	222.8	237.0c	+1.2	2.47
Do Accum	358.8	381.7c	+1.8	2.47
Gilt	81.6	82.4	+0.3	8.26
Gilt & Fixed Accum	89.4	90.3	+0.3	8.26
Income	72.1	76.7c	-0.2	4.13
Do Accum	78.1	83.0c	-0.2	4.13
International	200.8	213.6	-0.7	1.28
Do Accum	247.8	263.6	-0.8	1.28
Japan	109.4	116.3●	..	0.00
Do Accum	111.4	118.5●	..	0.00
Recovery	164.4	174.8	+0.4	2.79
Do Accum	173.9	184.8	+0.4	2.79
Exempt Dist	208.0	214.4●	..	2.60
Exempt Accum	318.1	327.9●	..	2.60
MIDLAND BANK GROUP UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Courtwood Hse, Silver St. Head, Sheffield S1 3RD 0742 79842				
Capital Income	72.5	77.3	+0.1	2.52
Do Accum	97.8	104.4	+0.2	2.52
Commodity & Gen	109.0	116.3	+0.2	3.10
Do Accum	151.0	161.1	-0.5	3.10
Extra High Inc	53.3	56.8	+0.4	8.40
Do Accum	60.3	64.3	+0.5	8.40
Gilt & Fixed Inc	51.8	54.0c	+0.2	9.76
Do Accum	61.5	65.1c	+0.2	9.76
High Yield	135.3	144.3	+0.9	6.04
Do Accum	224.5	239.5	+1.5	6.04
Income	153.0	163.2●	+1.0	3.96
Do Accum	249.0	265.6●	+1.5	3.96
Japan & Pacific	194.0	206.9c	+1.6	0.22
Do Accum	203.2	216.7c	+1.6	0.22
N American Inc	101.3	108.9	+1.2	1.33
Do Accum	116.3	127.2	+0.8	1.33
Overseas Growth	95.7	102.0	+0.9	1.26
Do Accum	114.6	122.2	+1.1	1.26
Smaller Cos Inc	92.1	98.2●	+0.2	2.87
Do Accum	97.4	103.9●	+0.2	2.87
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT 163, Hope Street, Glasgow G2 2UH 041 221 9252				
American	105.1	112.2●	-0.2	3.65
European	188.6	201.3	+1.8	1.18
Smaller Cos	173.3	185.0	+1.0	2.01
NATIONAL PROVIDENT INVESTMENT MANAGERS 48, Gracechurch St, EC3P 3HH 01-623 4200 Ext 289				
NPI UK	181.2	192.8	+0.9	3.10
Do Accum	289.6	308.1	-1.4	3.10
NPI Overseas	509.0	541.5c	+0.2	1.10
Do Accum	618.7	658.2c	+0.2	1.10
Far East Acc	59.8	63.7●	+0.5	0.30
Do Dist	59.7	63.6●	+0.4	0.30
American Acc	54.8	58.3	+0.1	1.30
Do Dist	54.3	57.8	+0.1	1.30
NORWICH UNION PO Box 4, Norwich NR1 3NG 0603 622200				
Group Trust	£10.43	10.98●	+0.06	4.07
Intl Trust	117.0	123.2	-0.3	1.63
OPPENHEIMER TRUST MANAGEMENT 66, Cannon Street, London EC4N 6AE dealings 01-236 3885/6/7/8/9/0				
International Growth	121.6	130.1●	+2.0	1.06
Income & Growth	49.7	52.9	+0.2	2.80
Special Sits	70.2	75.1	+0.8	2.10
American Growth	32.5	34.8	..	3.10
Japan Growth	42.0	44.7	+0.7	..
European Growth	52.0	55.6●	+1.0	2.90
UK Growth	47.5	50.8	+0.3	1.30
Pacific Growth	35.8	38.3	+0.3	0.70
High Income	29.2	31.3	-0.1	8.10
Practical Income	46.9	49.9	+0.1	2.70
Do Accum	84.3	89.7	+0.1	2.70
PEARL TRUST 252, High Holborn, WC1V 7EB 01-405 8441				
Growth Fund Inc	79.0	84.0	+0.6	2.71
Do Accum	115.7	124.1	+0.7	2.71
Income Fund	105.6	112.3	+0.6	4.44
Intl Equity Inc	109.2	116.2	+0.3	1.72
Do Accum	108.9	115.9	..	1.73
Unit Trust Inc	112.4	119.6	+0.9	3.49
Do Accum	192.5	204.8	+1.5	3.49
PERPETUAL UNIT TRUST 48, Hart Street, Henley On Thames 0491 576868				
Intl Growth	238.9	254.2	+1.2	1.29
Income	168.5	180.5	+0.9	5.18
Worldwide Rec	133.6	143.4●	+0.8	1.95
Amer Growth	66.4	71.3●	-0.2	1.01
Intl Emerg Co's	71.3	76.6	-0.1	0.67
Far East Grwth	58.2	62.5	..	1.10
PROLIFIC UNIT TRUSTS 222, Bishopsgate, London EC2 01-247 7544/7				
International	96.4	102.7	-0.4	1.51
High Income	157.5	167.0	+0.6	4.40
Conv & Gilt	84.9	90.0●	+0.4	5.93
Far Eastern	128.1	137.7	+1.1	0.31
North American	132.6	142.6	+0.7	2.17
Special Sits	175.7	186.3	+0.3	1.13
Technology	111.9	120.3	+0.4	0.67
Extra Income	73.7	78.2	+0.1	5.18
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 51-69, Ilford Hill, Ilford Essex, IG1 2DL 01-478 3377				
Holborn Equity	366.4	389.7	+2.0	3.36
European	71.1	75.8	+0.7	0.96
Holborn Comms	50.9	54.1	..	0.90
Holborn High Inc	58.6	63.3	+0.2	5.65
Holborn Intl	83.1	88.3●	+0.1	0.78
Japanese	67.8	72.1c	+0.3	0.05
N American	62.1	66.0	..	1.53
Holborn Spec Sits	55.9	59.4	-0.3	2.72
Holborn UK Growth	73.7	78.3●	+0.6	3.11
Holborn Gilt Trust	162.2	169.3	+0.8	8.64
QUILTER MANAGEMENT COMPANY 31-45 Gresham St. London EC2V 7LH 01-600 4177				
Quadrant General	375.3	399.3	..	3.29
Quadrant Income	205.1	218.2	..	6.12
Quadrant Intl Fd	350.3	368.6	..	1.20
Quadrant Recovery	228.7	243.3	..	3.06
N M ROTHSCHILD ASSET MANAGEMENT St Swithins Lane, London EC4P 4DU 01-280 5456				
NC America Inc	258.7	273.0	+0.7	1.11
Do Accum	276.1	293.7	+0.9	1.11
NC Energy Res	140.1	149.0	-0.2	2.81
NC Income	80.0	85.0	+0.4	4.14
NC Japan	137.6	146.3●	+0.5	0.03
NC Smaller Cos	121.6	129.3c	+0.2	2.37
NC Smlr Europ Co's	142.0	151.0	+0.8	0.40
NC Exempt Gilt	£116.0	121.0	..	7.38
NC Amer Prop	$11.57	12.18	..	..
NC Property	186.5	198.3	..	..
ROWAN UNIT TRUST 33 King William Street, London EC4R 9AS 01-638 5678				
American (4)	218.0	222.0	..	2.56
Securities (2)	640.0	655.0●	..	2.70
High Yield (5)	138.0	141.5	..	8.28
Merlin (3)	350.0	358.0●	+7.0	2.11
Fixed Interest	158.5	159.5	+0.5	2.68
High Interest	118.0	119.0	..	12.81
Far East (2)	161.5	165.0	..	0.30
ROYAL LIFE FUND MANAGEMENT New Hall Place, Liverpool L69 3HS 051-227 4422				
Equity Trust	55.8	59.3	+0.4	2.87
Intl Trust	62.7	66.6●	..	1.34
Gilt Trust	25.3	26.6	+0.1	8.56
US Trust	29.6	31.4	..	1.63
Pacific Basin Tst	30.7	32.6	+0.1	0.88
ROYAL LONDON UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Royal London House, Colchester CO1 1RA 0206 576115				
American Growth	78.5	83.6●	+0.1	0.94
Capital Accum	162.4	172.8	+1.2	2.35
Gilt Income	51.4	54.2●	+0.3	9.29
High Income	67.1	74.1c	+1.9	5.70
Income & Growth	82.9	88.2●	+0.7	4.85
Japan Growth	63.6	67.7	..	0.08
Special Sits	90.9	97.5	+0.5	1.58
SAVE & PROSPER 28, Western Rd, Romford RM1 3LB 68-73, Queen St, Edinburgh EH2 4NX (Romford) 0708-66966 Or (Edin) 031-226 7351				
Amer Inc & Growth	64.8	69.3	-0.3	7.70
Capital Units	93.8	100.3	..	2.46
Commodity	46.8	50.0e	-0.2	1.50
Energy Inds	43.3	46.3●	-0.4	3.05
European Growth	85.0	90.9	-0.2	0.72
Exempt Inc Bnd	71.9	75.7●	..	5.86
Do Intl (43)	57.6	60.7	..	2.80
Exploration	35.4	38.9●	-0.6	1.09
Financial Secs	83.0	88.7	+0.1	2.32
Gilt & FI Inc	52.0	54.8	+0.2	11.32
High Return Units	158.3	169.3●	+0.8	5.25
High Yield Units	148.9	159.2	+0.8	4.67
Income Units	86.2	92.1●	+0.7	6.30
Investment Trust	77.0	82.3	+0.1	2.75
International	106.6	113.3	-0.5	3.58
Japan Growth	62.8	67.1	+0.1	..
Japan Smaller Cos	97.8	104.5	+0.1	..
Masterfund	25.0	26.7	..	3.11
New Technology	95.1	101.7	-0.3	..
SE Asia Growth	92.1	98.5	-2.1	1.85
Scotbits	111.8	119.5●	+0.1	2.94
Scotshares	145.8	155.9	-0.1	3.49
Scotyields	141.5	151.3c	+0.5	4.48
Select International	66.6	71.2	-0.1	1.40
Smaller Co's Inc	132.9	142.1	+0.4	5.20
Special Situations	82.7	88.4	+0.2	2.22
UK Equity	162.3	173.5●	-0.8	2.72
US Growth	71.3	76.2c	-0.2	0.55
Universal Growth	74.7	79.8	..	1.98
SCHRODER UNIT TRUST Enterprise House, Portsmouth 0705 827733				
American Inc	120.0	128.3	-0.8	1.57
Do Accum	122.3	130.8	-0.8	1.57
Australian Inc	58.6	63.0●	-0.3	1.95
Do Accum	62.8	67.5●	-0.4	1.95
European Inc	91.8	98.1	-0.4	1.23
Do Accum	94.1	100.6	-0.4	1.23
Gilt & Fixed Inc	51.4	54.2●	+0.4	9.96
Do Accum	78.7	80.9●	+0.7	9.96
Gold Fund Inc	32.9	35.1	+0.1	4.13
Do Accum	34.3	36.6	+0.2	4.13
Income	152.4	162.9●	+0.8	5.13
Do Accum	334.6	357.8●	+2.1	5.13
Intl Income	96.1	102.7	-0.4	0.77
Do Accum	132.6	141.8	-0.4	0.77
Jap Smlr Co's Ac	103.9	111.1●	-0.3	0.10
Singapore & Malay	46.0	49.1	-0.7	1.43
Do Accum	46.9	50.1	-0.7	1.43
Smaller Co's Inc	114.5	122.4	+0.3	1.61
Do Accum	119.5	127.8	+0.4	1.61
Special Sits Inc	92.3	98.7	..	1.41
Do Accum	95.5	102.1	..	1.41
Tokyo Fund Inc	158.8	167.8	-1.2	0.26
Do Accum	158.0	168.9	-1.2	0.26
US Smaller Co's Ac	54.6	58.3	-0.3	0.24
UK Equity Income	93.2	99.6●	+0.8	3.24
Do Accum	142.5	152.3●	+1.2	3.24
Recovery	678.0	725.1●	..	2.76
Special Exempt	105.5	112.8●	+2.7	1.77
Pensions & Charity	514.1	549.8●	+51.9	3.58
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE 28, St Andrews Sq, Edinburgh 031-556 9101				
Intl Income Units	134.5	143.1	..	3.39
Do Accum	198.2	210.8	..	3.39
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 19 St Andrews Sq, Edinburgh 031 225 2211				
UK Equity	160.7	171.9	+1.2	2.04
American	141.4	151.3	-0.3	1.36
Pacific	129.1	138.1	-0.1	0.07
European	186.3	199.3	+1.6	0.73
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INVESTMENT MANAGERS 109, Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5HN 041-248 6100				
UK Equity	152.9	162.7	+1.3	2.84
Gilt & Fixed	107.8	114.7	+0.2	8.60
UK Smlr Co's Eq	126.0	134.0	+0.4	2.21
European	155.9	165.9	+1.0	1.65
N American	103.7	110.3	-0.5	1.98
Pacific	120.0	127.7	+0.5	0.89
SCOTTISH UNIT TRUST 29, Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh 031-226 4372				
Pacific	41.8	44.8	-0.1	..
World Growth	31.7	34.0	-0.1	0.79
N American	33.0	35.4	-0.5	0.78
Income Fund	38.7	42.5●	+0.1	5.41
SCOTTISH WIDOWS PO Box 902, Edinburgh EH16 5BU 031-655 6000				
Peg Eq Inc	207.9	221.3	+2.3	3.15
Do Accum	237.5	252.8	+2.7	3.15
SENTINAL FUNDS MANAGEMENT 30, City Rd, London EC1Y 2AY 01-638 6011				
Amer Tech & Gen	100.3	107.3	..	0.10
Pacific	133.4	142.7	+0.3	0.89
Sec Income Fnd	152.4	163.1●	+1.3	5.16
Special Situations	182.6	195.6	+1.5	1.92
Energy & Res	24.5	26.2	-0.6	0.10
American Majors	67.4	72.1	..	2.50
Small Co's	33.4	35.7c	-0.1	2.08
Japan Tech & Gen	71.4	76.4	-1.0	0.10
International Income	53.1	56.8●	+0.4	6.00
Exempt	496.5	531.3	..	2.56
UK General	26.6	28.5	+0.6	3.10
SIMON & COATES 1, London Wall Bldgs, London EC2M 5PT 01-588 3644 Ext 357				
Special Sits (5)	46.5	49.5	..	1.54
STANDARD LIFE 3, George St, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ 031 225 2552				
Income Units	226.2	242.5	+3.2	3.23
Do Accum Units	247.9	265.7	+3.5	3.23
STEWART, IVORY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 45, Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh 031-226 3271				
American Fund	210.4	224.1	..	2.14
Do Accum	236.3	251.7	..	2.14
Do Withdrawal	152.3	162.2	..	2.14
Australian Fund	112.8	120.1	-0.8	0.97
Do Accum	114.0	121.4	-0.8	0.97
British Fund	518.4	552.1c	-2.1	4.34
Do Accum	690.0	734.8c	-2.7	4.34
European Fund	236.1	251.4	+2.7	0.86
Do Accum	248.6	264.7	+1.3	0.86
Japan Fund	241.9	257.6c	+2.2	0.39
Do Accum	242.8	258.4c	+2.2	0.39
Sams PPP	145.6	154.4	+3.1	
SUN ALLIANCE Sun Alliance Hse, Horsham, Sussex 0403 56293				
Equity Trust Acc	353.0	375.5	+1.5	2.76
N Am Trust Acc	54.3	57.7	-0.2	1.74
Far East Trust Acc	61.3	65.2	+0.1	1.48
TSB UNIT TRUSTS PO Box 3, Keens Hse, Andover, Hants, SP10 1PG 0264 62188 Dealings: 0264 63432				
American Inc	109.2	116.2	+0.7	0.95
Do Accum	113.7	121.0	+0.8	0.95
Extra Income Inc	96.7	102.9●	+0.5	5.72
Do Accum	112.9	120.2●	+0.5	5.72
General Unit Inc	143.7	152.9●	+1.0	2.87
Do Accum	233.8	248.8●	+1.6	2.87
Gilt & Fixed Inc	46.7	48.7●	+0.2	9.13
Do Accum	59.9	62.4●	+0.3	9.13
Income	192.7	205.0	-1.0	4.50
Accum	295.7	314.6	+1.5	4.59
Pacific Inc	122.6	130.5	..	0.72
Do Accum	125.7	133.8	..	0.72
Intl Inc	268.6	285.8	+0.8	1.80
Do Accum	329.7	350.8	+1.0	1.80
Selected Opps Inc	54.4	57.9	+0.3	1.91
Do Accum	59.1	62.9	+0.3	1.91
Natural Res	43.3	46.1	-0.3	2.53
Do Accum	44.2	47.1	-0.2	2.53
TARGET TRUST MANAGERS Target House, Gatehouse Rd, Aylesbury Bucks 0296 5941				
Amer Eagle	73.7	78.5	..	0.44
Australian	20.7	22.1●	-0.6	0.10
Commodity	72.1	77.4	-0.8	2.27
Energy	42.0	44.2	-0.6	1.59
Equity	113.4	121.8	+0.2	3.00
European Spec Sits	81.9	86.7	+1.7	0.24
Extra Income	100.3	107.5●	-0.4	6.42
Financial	232.5	248.8c	+2.0	2.02
Gilt Income	98.2	103.3●	+0.4	8.64
Gold Income	57.8	62.0	+0.3	2.00
Do Accum	105.3	112.8	-0.5	2.00
Income	73.9	78.9c	-0.1	4.58
Japan	63.8	68.2	+0.7	0.10
Malay & Singapore	19.4	20.7	+0.3	1.35
Pacific Inc	73.3	77.3	+0.4	0.09
Do Reinvest	88.6	94.8	+0.3	0.09
Pref Share Fd	16.2	17.4	+0.2	10.29
UK Capital	57.5	61.6a	+0.3	2.15
Special Sits	77.2	82.3●	-0.6	0.98
Technology	45.3	49.0●	+0.3	0.10
World Income	49.5	52.7	..	7.18
Worldwide Capital	127.1	135.8	+0.3	1.85
Equity Ex (3)	67.9	72.6	..	2.12
Do Accum (3)	127.3	136.1	..	2.12
3i UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 2, St Mary Axe, London EC3A 8BP 01 928-3356				
Smaller Co's	68.9	73.2	-0.3	0.10
TOUCHE REMNANT Mermaid House, 2, Puddle Dock London EC4V 3AT 01-248 1250				
American Growth	34.6	36.9c	-0.1	0.79
General Growth	46.9	50.5	+0.5	2.77
Global Tech	37.7	40.4	+0.2	0.10
Income Growth	53.8	57.3	-0.1	5.01
Income Monthly	42.7	45.6●	+0.3	7.03
Japan Growth	29.6	31.5	-0.2	0.18
O'seas Growth	39.1	42.0	+0.1	1.38
Smaller Cos	52.5	55.9	-0.1	1.91
Special Opps	56.8	60.5●	+0.3	1.78
TRANSATLANTIC & GENERAL SECURITIES 91-99, New London Rd, Chelmsford 0245 51651				
Colemco Inc (5)	412.2	430.7	..	4.04
Do Accum (5)	672.4	702.4	..	4.04
Fielding Fund (4)	217.2	228.7	..	3.34
Do Accum (4)	237.8	250.4	..	3.34
Fldng Am & Gen (4)	215.8	227.2c	..	1.35
Do Accum (4)	242.6	256.4c	..	1.35
Fielding Inc Fund (4)	152.4	160.5	..	5.22
S & W Amer (3)	148.4	156.0	..	1.88
S & W Smlr Secs	113.0	119.0	..	0.52
TYNDALL MANAGERS 18 Canynge Rd, Bristol 0272 732241				
Australian	59.4	63.6	-0.4	1.44
Do Acc	61.4	65.7	-0.6	1.44
Capital	295.8	313.7●	+1.6	3.84
Do Accum	522.6	554.2●	+2.7	3.84
Exempt	253.4	269.9●	+1.3	1.42
Do Accum	569.5	606.5●	+2.9	1.42
Far Eastern	135.3	144.6c	-1.2	0.88
Do Accum	145.3	155.5c	-1.2	0.88
Fin & Prop	46.1	49.1●	+0.3	4.00
Do Accum	71.4	75.1●	+0.3	4.00
Gilt Capital	117.3	121.9c	+0.4	6.97
Do Accum	131.7	137.0c	+0.4	6.97
Gilt Income	104.4	108.3	+0.4	10.23
Do Accum	163.8	169.9	+0.6	10.23
High Yield	48.6	51.8	+0.3	6.71
Do Accum	103.8	110.6	+0.8	6.71
Income	204.7	217.1c	+1.6	5.93
Do Accum	620.8	658.4c	+4.7	5.93
Intl Earnings	150.7	160.5	+0.6	2.94
Do Accum	217.7	231.9	+0.9	2.94
Intl Growth	70.1	74.7	+0.5	0.90
Do Accum	72.6	77.4	+0.6	0.90
Japan Growth Acc	80.1	85.7	..	0.20
Natural Resources	159.9	170.3	-0.7	2.47
Do Accum	227.9	242.8	-0.9	2.47
N Amer Growth	117.2	125.4●	-0.2	0.94
Do Acc	135.9	145.4●	-0.3	0.94
Pref	107.9	115.0	..	11.32
Do Accum	268.8	286.1	..	11.32
Smaller Co's Div Inc	48.3	51.5●	..	6.57
Do Accum	54.5	58.1●	..	6.57
Smaller Cos	167.0	177.9●	+0.6	2.67
Do Accum	222.2	236.7●	+0.9	2.67
Special Sits	90.0	95.9	+0.3	2.34
Do Accum	93.4	99.5	+0.2	2.34
European Growth	87.1	92.6c	+1.4	1.40
UK PROVIDENT UT MANAGERS UK House, Castle St, Salisbury SP1 3SH 0722 336242				
UK Equity	113.0	119.8	+0.4	
Pacific Basin	110.8	117.4	-0.7	
N Amer	114.4	121.3	-0.8	
VANGUARD TRUST 65 Holborn Viaduct EC1A 2EU 01-236 3053				
Growth Inc	167.5	178.2●	+1.0	2.09
Do Accum	241.8	257.3	+1.5	2.09
High Yield	184.7	196.5●	+1.7	4.53
Special Sits	36.1	38.5a	+0.3	2.94
Trustee	118.0	125.5	+0.9	3.72
Do Accum	176.9	188.1	+1.3	3.72
Amer & Gen	55.7	59.3	+0.4	1.22
Master Portfolio (4)	£54.64	56.05	+1.22	3.42
Abingdon Rdm Asts	100.5	107.0	..	3.50
WARDLEY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Wardley House, 7, Devonshire Sq, London EC2 01-929 1532				
American Trust	65.2	70.2	-0.1	1.90
Far East & Gen	68.9	73.3	..	1.40
Intl Growth	56.9	60.6	+0.1	1.70
Income Trust	70.9	76.3	+0.3	5.60
Japan Growth	75.1	80.7	+0.3	0.20
Small Companies	120.7	129.8●	+1.5	2.00
Technology	35.0	37.7	..	0.20
Australia	41.5	44.7●	-0.9	1.50
UK Trust	118.1	125.7	..	2.50
European Growth	42.5	45.3	+0.4	1.20
Hong Kong	20.9	22.2c	-0.6	2.00
WAVERLEY ASSET MANAGEMENT 13 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh 031-225 1551				
Australian Gold	17.3	18.5●	+0.1	0.15
Pacific Basin Energy	14.1	15.0	-0.2	0.20
Canadian Bal Gth	46.8	50.0	..	3.00
Ginnie Mae Fnd	$102.6	105.9●	-0.6	8.10
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 2 Honey La EC2 8BT 01-606 9085/6				
Sht Dtd Gilt Fund	80.6	81.6	+0.2	1.38

● Ex dividend. c Cum dividend. k Cum stock split. s Ex stock split. m Cum all (any two or more of above). a Ex all (any two or more of above). Dealing or valuation days: (1) Monday. (2) Tuesday. (3) Wednesday. (4) Thursday. (5) Friday. (20) 25th of month. (21) 2nd Thursday of month. (22) 1st and 3rd Wednesday of month. (23) 20th of month. (24) 3rd Tuesday of month. (25) 1st and 3rd Thursday of month. (26) 4th Tuesday in month. (27) 1st Wednesday in month. (28) Last Thursday in month. (29) 3rd working day of month. (30) 16th of month. (31) 1st working day of month. (32) 20th of month. (33) 1st day of February, May, August, November. (34) Last working day of month. (35) 15th of month. (36) 14th of month. (37) 21st of month. (38) 3rd Wednesday of month. (39) 2nd Wednesday of month. (40) Valued monthly. (41) Last Thursday of Stock Exchange account. (42) Last day of month. (43) 2nd and 4th Wednesday of month. (44) Quarterly. (45) 6th of month. (46) 2nd Tuesday of month.

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TEMPUS

Plessey keeps the big guns for power struggle

Like any good strategist, Plessey is anxious to hold on to its firepower for as long as possible. It has no need to blast off at this stage, because the Monopolies Commission's investigation of GEC's bid could last another five months.

So it came as no surprise that yesterday's figures for the third quarter were fairly muted, showing only a small rise in profits to £41.9 million before tax. Admittedly they would have been £8 million better but for exchange rate movements.

Though fairly unexciting in themselves, the figures contained several interesting pointers. As a result, the shares rose 4p to 212p.

The company is particularly proud of its productivity improvements, following a 3,700 fall in the number of employees. Theoretically that alone could save the company about £40 million a year.

Another point to emerge is that System X, the public switching exchange, has suddenly become profitable. Having lost money last year and only broken even in the first six months of the current year, it made profits of £8 million in the third quarter on deliveries of £47 million. A similar improvement is taking place at Stromberg Carlson, its American subsidiary.

The market was encouraged by the company's talk of a good fourth quarter. From what was said about trading it seems that profits in the current quarter could rise to as much as £58 million, taking the total for the year to £170 million, against last year's £164 million. Given the extent of the first-half shortfall, this recovery would provide a strong platform for a defence if GEC is allowed to renew its bid.

The problem for Plessey is that its figures for the full year are going to be very closely scrutinized for accounting changes. It has traditionally adopted a policy of smoothing profits, for example, by using redundancy provisions. But it still has £60 million in provisions for contract warranties and guarantees, £16 million of that relating to System X.

If all goes well, at least some of these should be released and the net provision should cease to grow. This would boostprofits significantly, a point that will not have escaped GEC's notice.

The dollar bounced yesterday, too and, perhaps coincidentally, the Bank of England altered its dealing tactics in the money markets. Instead of undersupplying credit, the authorities left the market short by over £100 million. Predictably, short-term period rates firmed. This did sterling no harm.

Merrill Lynch was the big player in the gilts market, closing up its short positions of Wednesday evening. But even the buying power of the Thundering Herd failed to curb the traders' fundamental bearishness. The vogue move was making the switch out of '99 stocks into, say, '94 stocks, given the record terms and hoping for a reversal as the foreigner comes in and the taps hit the turn-of-the-century zone.

BOC

Lest investors be sidetracked by its astute currency management, BOC has restated last year's first quarter profits to allow for the effect of exchange rate changes and the company's successful forward currency transactions. As a result pretax profits for the three months to December 31 show a 15 per cent increase to £37.9 million on sales 4 per cent ahead at £552.6 million.

While BOC is now reaping the benefits of selling forward $60 million at an average rate of $1.09 to cover this year's anticipated dollar earnings, the swings and roundabouts of the currency game have again had a considerable adverse impact on Australian and South African earnings. The underlying trading performance led to an initial gain of 11p to 335p for the shares, but they then fell back to 322p.

The blackspot, as expected, was the carbon electrodes business in the United States which had a "savage" first quarter with monthly losses running at more than £1 million.

With the help of the dollar's weakness against the yen, crucial for fighting Japanese imports, volumes have now recovered — albeit at lower prices. The predicted sale of the business is by no means imminent, but at least the price at which BOC is talking is more cheering.

The first quarter is traditionally weak, but gases volumes improved overall with good results in Britain and in the Far East.

The health care division performed strongly, belying fears that growth was slowing. There was particular strength in anaesthetic gases and patient monitoring equipment, despite further costs associated with the reorganization of the equipment business.

Since the beginning of the year BOC's shares have risen from around 280p, partly on speculation that the carbon business was about to be sold. They now stand on a likely price-earnings ratio of 10, assuming profits of £195 million (after additional depreciation). Hardly overdemanding, but earnings are not going to keep pace with profits growth because of a rising tax charge and declining additional depreciation.

Analysts are now looking to next year when BOC will no longer have the benefit of its fancy currency footwork.

Gilts

Like nostalgia, the numbers are not what they used to be. Time was when policy statements and economic data enjoyed a reasonable correlation. Sadly, those halcyon days are now just distant memories, to the chagrin of the analysts. Hence yesterday's halving of the US real growth rate in the fourth quarter last year from an initially reported 2.4 to 1.2 per cent squares oddly with Mr Volcker's comments to Congress on Wednesday that the economy was growing at a reasonable clip.

Discount rate cuts? Hardly, judging by the US bond traders reactions to the figures. Bonds sold off on the revised GNP data, suggesting in turn that New York is more inclined to believe the words of the Fed than the US Treasury.

£5m cash call by Cullen's

Cullen's Holdings, the grocery retailer, is to raise £5.1 million through a one-for-four rights issue. The 2.65 million new shares wil be priced at 200p each.

Holders of 6.93 million shares — 65.4 per cent of the issued capital — have undertaken to take up their rights. The balance of the issue has been underwritten.

The directors forecast that the loss before tax on ordinary activities for the year to March 2 will be not more than £1.4 million, after charging exceptional redundancy costs of not more than £175,000.

After taking into account property profits of about £2.1 million, which are treated as extraordinary items, after-tax profits are forecast to be not less than £700,000. This represents a significant improvement in underlying profitability since 1985. No dividend will be recommended for the current year.

Cullen's says that the 19 convenience stores opened so far have produced turnover ahead of expectations.

The company is to continue converting the original Cullen's stores. In addition, the group has acquired six sites which have been or will be converted.

The directors say that the response to the convenience store concept has been so encouraging that they have decided to accelerate expansion plans.

The aim of the rights issue is to increase the company's financial resources so that it can "become a major force in high quality convenience retailing."

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Takeover battles fail to stir indexes

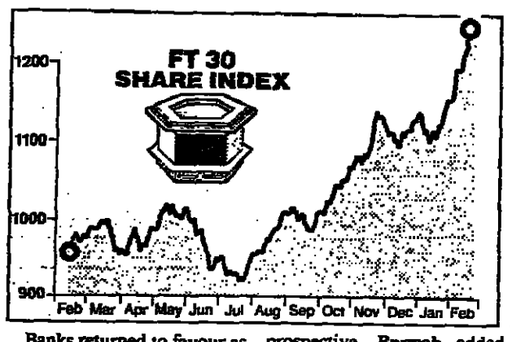
Takeover situations and speculative favourites dominated the markets on a day which saw the FT 30 share index ease 1.9 points to 1233.2. However, the FT-SE 100 share index was up 0.7 to 1492.1.

On the bid front, the main feature was again the Distillers-Argyll-Guinness triangle, following Guinness' increased bid for Distillers, accompanied by a promise to sell off some of the enlarged group's whisky brands if the bid goes unconditional. Distillers gained 2p to 628p, Guinness fell 15p to 286p and Argyll lost 10p to 335p.

BP lost 1p to 535p on publication of full year figures at the bottom end of forecasts.

Among other leaders reporting, Plessey added 2p to 210p while BOC ended the day down 1p at 323p, after touching 320p.

Gilts reversed earlier 3-8 falls, closing mixed. Golds added 50 cents on balance.



Banks returned to favour as the dividend season approached, Lloyds, the first to report, due next Friday, ahead 5p to 484p and Natwest up 10p to 694p.

Among companies reporting, Ward Holdings eased 21p to 261p on profit-taking. Quest Auto came in with increased halfway losses, down 10p to 23p.

On the bid side, real or prospective, Burmah added 6p to 304p on speculation and Lonrho, where stake-building rumours persist, 10p to 262p.

Option market: Dealers reported moderate trading. Calls were produced in Grattans, OTT, Burndene, Berkeley and Hay Hill, STC and United Biscuits. Puts were arranged in Plessey and Berkeley and Hay Hill but no "doubles" were completed.

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES

Abbott M	228 up 2
Ashley (L)	198 dn 1
Cable & Wire	320 dn 1
Control Tech	160
u-Datron Int	80 dn 3
Davidson Pce	155
u-Elec.Data	72
Fergusn J	24
Inoco	51
u-Klark-Tnk	98 dn 5
Laxicon Inc	118
Macro 4	131 up 3
Merivalee	125
Really Useful	368
SPP	156
Safeway UK	£41 15/16 up 3/16
u-Shandwick	210
u-Sherwood	205
u-Sigmex	87
Shorrock	77
Tiphook	174
Underwoods	188
Wellcome	169 dn 4

RIGHTS ISSUES

Barham	147 dn 1
Cray Elec	290
Peel Hdgs	485
Safeway UK	£41 15/16 up 3/16
Stormgard	17
Speyhawk	300 up 5
Watshams	34
Westland	10 dn 3

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:		
Aquascutum	200	+45
Spectrum	29	+5
Bassett	183	+23
Cecil Gee	141	+16
Premier Cons	30	+3
Cattle's Hldgs	43.50	+4
Grampian TV	35	+3
Berk Hayhill	11.75	+1
Br Benzol	71	+6
Sycamore	25	+2
FALLS:		
Quest Auto	23	-10
Petranol	80	-10
N London Oil	33	-5
Grosvenor Sq	100	-13
Kwahu	25	-3
Real Time	45	-5

Co-op wades into the travel war

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

More rapid expansion by the big travel agents is being signalled with further takeovers in prospect, increasing the threat to smaller agencies.

The Co-op travel shops chain, which has announced a £1 million re-launch in a drive for more trade, is the latest to set its sights on fast expansion.

Backed by the cash-rich Co-operative Wholesale Society, it is following the other big chains, including Thomas Cook, Pickfords and Lunn Poly, who have launched drives to lift market share by increasing their outlets.

Thomas Cook, the Midland Bank subsidiary, has almost 400 travel outlets and leads the field. Pickfords, part of the National Freight Consortium, has 280 high street travel shops and aims to increase their number to 360 in addition to expanding the Pickfords business travel outlets. Lunn Poly, part of Thomson Travel, has about 210 high street travel outlets and plans substantial increases.

A.T. Mays, the fast-expanding Scottish company, also has more than 200 outlets and is now among the top six agency chains. It is unusual among the big chains for being a family concern and is headed by Mr Jim Moffat. His son Mr Jamie Moffat is retail director.

Mays has more than quadrupled in size since 1983.

The top 10 agencies account for 40 per cent of sales compared with less than 15 per cent 10 years ago. They have about 2,000 branches which means their strength has almost trebled in the 10 years.

CWS, which has £2.5 billion a year in sales, directly controls 54 travel outlets and it is these which are being relaunched under a Co-op Travelcare banner. This follows a successful experiment with a Manchester outlet where a Travelcare revamp pushed up business 140 per cent.

Among the independent retail societies there are another 110 travel outlets, possibly half of which may be candidates for switching to the Travelcare banner.

But the aim of Mr Mike Grindrod, general manager of the CWS Travel Group, is to have 200 Travelcare units open by the end of next year with acquisition the chosen route to bring the additional 100 units into operation.

Now the CWS has decided to expand in the travel business it can afford to move quickly through acquisition and Mr Grindrod indicated that it could also expand into tour operating.

Like Lunn Poly, CWS plans to stick to high street outlets.

For chains looking to buying regional agency groups as a quick route to growth the supply is drying up. But small independents are showing increasing signs of weakness as lower-priced holidays have reduced their earnings.

The Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA) has just over 2,600 travel agency businesses on its books accounting for 6,000 branches but there was a record number of collapses last year, with 47 agents disappearing compared with 42 the year before.

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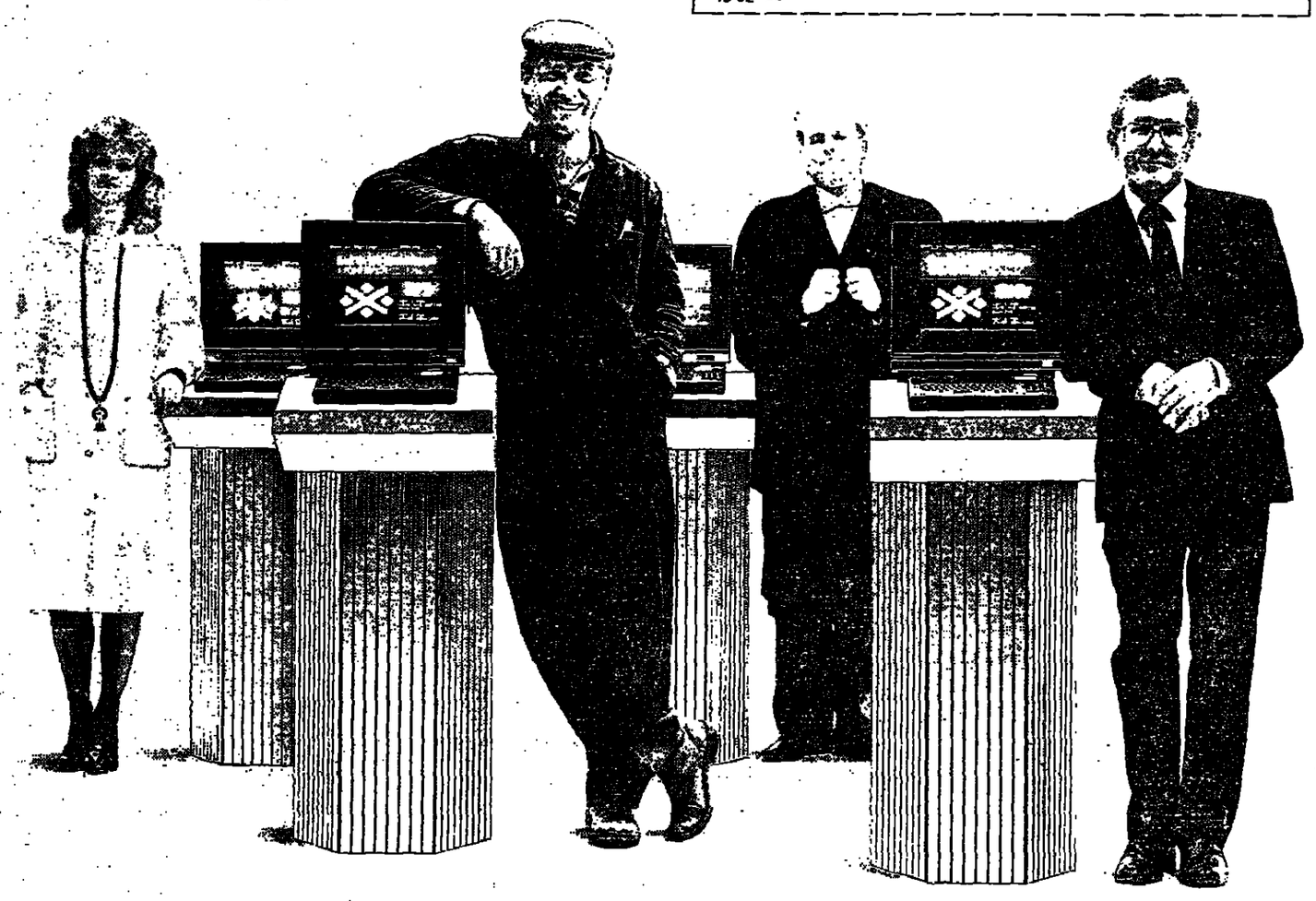
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COMPANY NEWS

● **JOHNSON, MATTHEY:** The company has reached agreement in principle with GGA Corporation for the sale of its subsidiary, Meyercord, to GGA for $17.4 million (about £12 million), subject to audit. At Dec. 31, 1985, the unaudited book value of the Meyercord assets and business was $15.8 million. The proceeds will be used to reduce Johnson's debt.

● **TOR INVESTMENT:** Interim dividend 4.9p (4.2p), payable March 31. For the half-year to Jan. 31, 1986, gross income from investments £531,000 (£529,000). Balance before tax £445,000 (£431,000). Earnings per income share 7.467p (6.967p) and per capital share 0.747p (0.697p).

● **COIN INDUSTRIES:** For the six months to Dec. 31, 1985, the company is paying an interim dividend of 1.1p (same) on April 14. This now brings the company more into line with the dividend cover of 2.4 times envisaged at the time of the flotation. Turnover £6.88 million (£5.75 million). Pretax profit £441,000 (£248,000). Earnings per share 2.2p (1.17p). The board reports that this result represents a strengthening of both volume and margins.

● **STAR COMPUTER GROUP:** The company is reporting for thr half-year to Dec. 31, 1985, compared with the half-year to Oct. 31, 1984. Turnover £4.03 million (£3.55 million). Pretax profit £30,000 (£393,000 loss). Earnings per ordinary share 3.2p (4.5p deficit). The board reports that the size of the company's client base gives rise to high recurring maintenance revenues which are currently running at more than £3.2 million annually. The balance sheet remains strong with minimal debt and assets per share at book value of 64p. The board is confident that the second half of the year will see a return to more substantial levels of profitability.

● **PALABORA MINING:** The company, an associate of RTZ, is paying a final dividend of 85 cents, making a total of R1.80, for 1985. Pretax profit R189.33 million (about £64 million), against R112.39 million.

● **CROWN INTERNATIONAL PRODUCTIONS:** Final dividend 0.7p, making 4.2p (2.1p) for the year to Sept. 30, 1985. Sales £1.57 million (£875,000). Pretax profit £672,000 (£219,000). Earnings per share 10.2p (6.1p). The board envisages further growth in profits in the coming year.

● **WATERFORD GLASS GROUP:** Final dividend 1.4p, making 2.4p (2p) for 1985. Turnover Irish £255.19 million (Irish £245.1 million). Pretax profit Irish £18.48 million (Irish £14.6 million).

● **ROWLAND GAUNT:** The company has bought Kinch and Lack for a consideration related to Kinch's net worth at Feb. 18, 1986 and estimated to be about £1.3 million. Kinch's turnover for the 12 months to Feb. 15, 1985 was £1.85 million, producing a loss before tax of £10,094. Kinch has also sold its freehold property at Worthing for £835,000 in cash and has exchanged contracts for the sale of its freehold and leasehold properties at Guildford for £775,000. The properties in each case are to be leased back to Kinch for a maximum of up to two years

More company news on page 20

YOUR OWN BUSINESS

Big ideas for little operators

By Teresa Poole

A detailed regional approach to the problems of small businesses is to be launched on March 3 by the Social Democratic Party and the Liberals.

The Worksearch project is the result of 18 months of consultation with members around the country on how to combat unemployment. Central to the Alliance's policy will be greater emphasis on helping existing small businesses to expand, including training for those already in business.

In keeping with their philosophy of decentralization, the proposals are likely to include the setting-up of regional development agencies which would be responsible for training, industrial development, investment in public utilities, tourism and encouraging new technology. There would also be regional resource centres to provide back-up help for small companies and some regions are believed to be suggesting an industrial credit scheme and an overhaul of the British Overseas Trade Board to help smaller companies with their exports.

The Alliance is also worried that there is a shortage of small premises for start-up businesses and not enough low-level venture-capital support.

The regional policies will be presented at a series of conferences: in Glasgow, Leeds, Cambridge, London, Manchester and Liverpool, chaired by SDP president Shirley Williams.

John's mill grinds out a profit

By Hazel Shaw

John Lister mills 28 tons of pure, stone-ground flour each year at Shipton Mill, near Tetbury in Gloucestershire, and has more than doubled his annual turnover since starting as a miller in 1982.

Before that he read anthropology at Cambridge. Then he and a friend set up a painting-and-decorating business in London, which developed into an interior-design firm. It was this first successful enterprise that enabled him to venture into milling.

He said: "We were lucky to find cheap derelict buildings in an idyllic setting within easy reach of the M4, and some redundant machinery from Spillers." In the 1940s factory equipment, being made to last, was very sturdy so though expensive to renovate, it proved cost-effective to run.

Mr Lister started milling at a good time. Health-education programmes stressing the desirability of the most natural foods have continued to ensure a demand for his product.

As Mr Lister sees it, big millers, with machinery set up to refine white flour, produce brown flour by putting back into white all the ingredients which they have already spent money removing. That means they are obliged to charge more for brown flour, he says.

"White flour is sold at a lower price than brown, yet the cost of refining it is higher. From my point of view, we have a cheap site, cheap machinery and none of the heavy overheads of the large millers, so we can produce good, stone-ground flour competitively."

He operates along the M4 corridor from London to Cardiff, selling mainly to small family bakers and shops. He said: "We are lucky in that the whole of the M4 corridor is a fairly up-market area and there is a demand. We probably would not do so well in some of the more urban places, where people still want crusty white loaves or the sliced stuff."



From studying anthropology at Cambridge to flour power, using an old plant but modern ideas: John Lister at his Tetbury mill

In a year Mr Lister sells enough flour to make six million loaves of bread. It is all high-quality, ranging from English to an all-Canadian flour. He said: "Sometimes we mix them. English flour has a good taste but little volume, while the Canadian wheat produces volume but not much taste. It is important to supply a reasonable range of flours, although from our point of view the fewer customers and mixtures we have, the simpler it is."

In 1982 Shipton Mill received a Rural Employment Award for establishing a small and successful business in attractively converted redundant buildings and contributing towards increased rural employment. Though there had been a mill on the site since Domesday, the buildings were derelict and had to be completely rebuilt before being fitted out.

They needed more space so an 18th-century barn was transported from Hereford and re-erected to blend in. It cost £13,000. A modern steel-framed farm building of similar size, says Mr Lister, would have cost £21,000.

MR FRIDAY



"Look, are you absolutely *sure* you've got the right place?"

Banners unfurled for Captain Flash

BRIEFING

■ Licensing deals that are virtually franchises are on offer for a computerized system producing laminated banners and signs which are claimed to offer big cost advantages, particularly on runs of less than 50. The Captain Flash chain is being built up by Banacom Communications, which claims to be first in fully exploiting new instant techniques that originated in Australia and were then taken successfully by Banacom's master company to the US and Canada.

The British offshoot is aiming to appoint 50 licensee operators in the first 12 months of operation and another 70 in the second year. There is a flat licensing fee annually of £2,000. The total hardware package, including items such as a computer and a laminator, would cost about £19,500. The licence fee confers entitlement to the software programs and covers training.

■ **Contact:** *Paul Vernon, sales director, Banacom, Suite 2, 41 Davies Street, London W1Y 1FJ; (01) 493 3487.*

■ Luton, Bedfordshire, is running a competition to tempt people with innovative business ideas to the town and help them start or expand their own enterprise, *writes Sally Harris.*

First prize is £5,000 cash, followed by financial assistance for the next three years. Second and third cash prizes are £3,000 and £1,500 with corresponding aid for three years. The contest will be held annually.

David Turvey, industrial development officer, says: "Schemes may be in services, manufacturing or something else constructive, but not purely retail."

The closing date is March 31 and application forms are available from the borough valuer, Town Hall, Luton, Bedfordshire LU1 2BQ. Tel:(0582) 31291, extension 2150.

BP GROUP RESULTS, 1985

An excellent year

Progress in 1985

BP recorded excellent results for 1985.

Replacement cost profits rose 44% to £1,816 million, after tax but before extraordinary items.

All major business areas performed well, despite weakening crude oil prices and keen competition. Refining and marketing turned in a particularly good result.

Historical cost profits rose by only 14% to £1,598 million, reflecting stock losses caused by lower oil prices. Extraordinary items amounted to £929 million. Earnings per share increased to 87.4p, and recommended net dividend per share rose 13% to 34.0p.

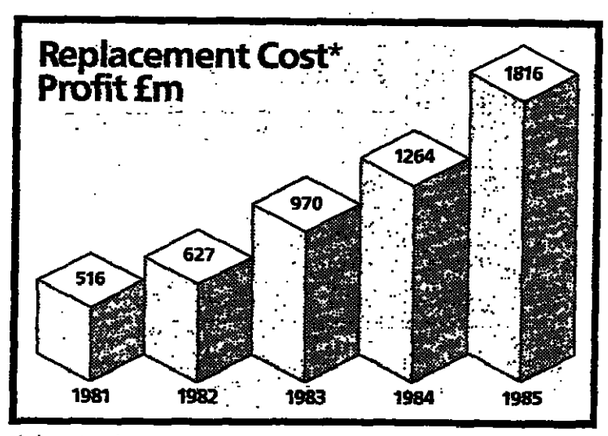
Group capital expenditure grew £583 million to £4,398 million and funds generated were £6,070 million.

Prospects for 1986

Unstable oil and currency markets make for an uncertain outlook.

However, BP's broad spectrum of business activities provides substantial protection against upheavals in any one market.

Progress in rationalising operations and strengthening the group's financial position provides a sound base from which to enter 1986.



* before extraordinary items

Key Financial Results	1985	1984
Group Profit after taxation and before extraordinary items (£m)		
– Replacement Cost	1816	1264
– Historical Cost	1598	1402
Earnings per share (pence)	87.4	76.8
Dividend per share (pence)	34.0	30.0

BP

Britain at its best

Price of houses up 10%

House prices have increased by 10 per cent over the past two months, according to Trencherwood, a property developer on the Unlisted Securities Market.

The company says the first quarter of 1986 has started well, helped by mild conditions in January and despite current poor weather.

It expects demand to continue to outstrip supply, with an overall rise of about 17 per cent by the end of the year.

Trencherwood's new homes land bank, including land under option, stands at 2,400 units.

It announced a final dividend of 3.7p yesterday, making 5.2p for the year to October 31 against 3p the previous year. Major shareholders are waiving about 90 per cent of their final dividend entitlement.

Turnover was £20.08 million, up from £17.13 million, operating profit was £3.77 million (£2.91 million), and pretax profit was £3.02 million (£2.58 million).

In brief

● **RAINE INDUSTRIES:** An interim dividend of 0.22p (0.2p) is being paid on April 25. In the half-year to Dec. 31, 1985, sales reached £8.71 million (£6.85 million). Pretax profit £320,000 (loss £97,000). Earnings per share 1.02p (loss 0.43p). The board confidently expects the group result at the year-end to demonstrate a continuation of the present trend. The company is now in a strong position from which to finance further growth.

● **SAMUEL PROPERTIES:** The company has arranged the placing of £20 million first mortgage stock, 2016. The price will be payable as to £25 per £100 nominal on application and the balance by April 25.

● **HARVEY AND THOMPSON:** An interim dividend of 1.75p (1.5p) is being paid. Turnover for the half-year to Dec. 28, 1985, £1.25 million (£699,000). Profit before tax £295,000 (£194,000). Earnings per share 5.32p (3.30p). The board reports that lending is continuing to advance and all branches show substantial increases during the first month of the year. This justifies the board's policy of continuing to establish new branches nationwide.

● **FEB INTERNATIONAL:** The company has decided to withdraw from the building and plumbing merchant activities now carried out by its subsidiary, Feb Distributors. This division's activities resulted in trading losses of £390,000, plus financial charges of £60,000, in 1985. Feb has disposed of these activities to Ashton Vernon for £600,000.

● **LADBROKE GROUP:** The group has appointed Lloyds Merchant Bank and Merrill Lynch Capital Markets as joint dealers of a $75 million Euro-commercial paper programme. Lloyds Merchant Bank has been awarded a mandate to arrange a seven-year revolving credit. The short-dated promissory notes will be issued by Ladbroke Group Finance — a subsidiary — and will be available through the dealers from April.

● **DWEK GROUP:** The company is to buy from Benjamin Kay and Co the goodwill, trademark, market information and order book of Key's PVC sheeting, vinyls and coated nylon distribution division. The price will be £210,000 cash.

● **KWAHU:** For the half-year to Dec. 31, 1985, pretax profit was £137,000 (£88,000). The directors do not expect the second half to produce a repetition of the exceptionally high profits on the disposal of investments. However, in view of the earnings of 1.20p per share already achieved, they are confident that they should be able to recommend a dividend of not less than the 1.25p paid last year on the capital as increased by the one-for-one rights issue.

● **COCA–COLA:** Net income for the fourth quarter up 45 per cent to $1.45 a share.

● **HOGG ROBINSON GROUP:** Bain Dawes is to buy Hogg Robinson (New Zealand) for £530,000.

● **ROMNEY TRUST:** A final dividend of 3.35p is being paid on April 2, making a total of 5p (4.6p) for 1985. Gross revenue £3.86 million (£3.17 million). Revenue before tax £3 million (£2.07 million). Earnings per ordinary stock unit 6.53p (4.49p).

● **WARD HOLDINGS:** The company, which is based at Chatham, Kent, is paying a final dividend of 5.5p for the year to October 31, 1985, making a total of 7.25p, against 6.6p last time. On turnover up from £23.59 million to £27.35 million, pretax profit rose from £4.42 million to £4.66 million. However, the tax bill is more than doubled at £2.19 million, against £849,000 last time, so earnings per share have fallen to 18.8p. Last year, they were 40.8p and 27.2p fully diluted. The board is confident that during the coming year the group's house building operations will continue to be buoyant and that the results for 1986 will reflect this in a significant way.

US retaliation will hit EEC steel exports

From Bailey Morris, Washington

The Reagan Administration, in its strongest steel action to date, has taken retaliatory measures against the European Economic Community which could result in the reduction of 400,000 tons a year in European steel exports.

Mr Clayton Yeutter, the US trade representative, said that the United States was taking the strongest measures at its disposal, in effect to retaliate against the EEC for its actions against American products in a continuing trade dispute over steel.

The American decision, announced yesterday, would allow the British Steel Corporation to honour its contract with the Tuscaloosa, Alabama, steel plant to supply up to 200,000 tons a year of semi-finished steel products.

But the action means that British Steel will be barred from taking up any of the remaining 400,000-ton quota now applied to EEC steel exports. A spokesman for Mr Yeutter's office said the action was taken in response to "the unfriendly retaliation" by the EEC in barring American exports.

The move eliminates all flexibility in steel trade between Europe and the United States, restricting EEC exporters to fixed quotas outlined in an earlier agreement.

The new arrangement would, in effect, cut sharply European steel exports at a time when both sides are seeking to boost trade to stimulate their economic growth.

The action limits the share of European finished steel products in the United States to 4.3 million tons and to 600,000 tons for semi-finished steel products.

APPOINTMENTS

Balfour managing director named

Balfour Beatty: Mr R C M Rankin has been appointed managing director.



R C M Rankin

Leamington Spa Building Society: Mr R Neill has become chief executive.

UK Provident Institution: Lord Kimball has been named a director.

Don & Low: Mr Alastair McIntosh has been made product development director.

Edelman Dale Financial: Mr Alan J Kennard has been appointed director.

Taxsoft: Mr Mark Scott has joined the board.

Magnavox Systems: Mr Robin Gueslier has become managing director.

The Union Discount Company of London: Mr John Sclater is to be deputy chairman in succession to Lord Remnant, who will remain on the board. Mr Graeme Gilchrist, group managing director, will in addition become an executive deputy chairman of the group.

Crest Nicholson: Mr John St Lawrence has become a non-executive director.

Ruberoid Contracts: Mr Bruce B Davies has been appointed financial director.

Lowfield Distribution: Mr Rob Scribbins has become managing director.

Sizewell "B" Project Management: Mr Derek Taylor has joined the board.

Midland Bank International: Mr Ian Spight has been named as corporate finance director, aerospace.

Zinc Development Association: Mr Otto Blomberg has been elected chairman.

Guinness: Mr Brian Baylis becomes managing director of Martin Retail Group in succession to Mr Nicholas Ward

Banks raise lending to small businesses

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Despite increasing competition among the clearing banks, the big four and their rivals still have a tendency to move at the same time whena new idea is gaining momentum.

Though not strictly new, lending to small and medium-sized businesses is becoming a craze. For sound business reasons, the banks are eager to join in.

Three banks announced plans this week to upgrade their services to small business.

Lloyds Bank is to double the size of its Business Loan Scheme — designed for small and medium-sized firms — committing an extra £500 million in lending to the scheme this year.

On Tuesday, Yorkshire Bank gave notice of its intention to move aggressively into the small business lending market after concentrating for several years on building up its personal banking side.

On Monday, National Westminster announced a reorganization of its branch network, which was partly aimed at giving a more responsive and competitive service to local businesses.

The definition of a small business is inevitably hazy, but the market is enormous.

Of the 1.5 million businesses on the VAT register, for example, 1.44 million have a turnover of less than £1 million a year. These clearly count as small or medium-sized firms.

Then there are those so small that they fall below the £19,500 turnover threshold of the VAT register.

On the face of it, lending to small businesses may not look particularly attractive, because of the higher risks and the absorption of more bank management time in assessing potential loans.

But although in recent years lending to large corporations has become less profitable as margins have been pared — often to less than 1 per cent — small business lending is typically done at between 3 per cent and 5 per cent above the base rate.

Also, the personal banking sector is showing signs of saturation and intense competition is not helping profitability.

Having put enormous efforts into this sector for nearly two years, the banks have now noticed that small businesses are another area ripe for development.

The banks insist that small businesses are better organized and advised than ever before, making it easier and quicker to evaluate a request for a loan.

They have also learnt a lesson from recent personal banking initiatives: there are potentially huge sums to be made in fees and commissions by selling related services to small businesses. These range from payroll services and financial advice to insurance and pension planning.

Banks have, of course, always lent to small businesses to an extent. Lloyds estimates that it has a total exposure of about £3 billion.

But the new interest the banks are taking may at last do something to dispel the long-standing criticism that they do not do enough to help the country's entrepreneurs and small businessmen.

Return to profits at ENI

From John Earle, Rome

ENI, the Italian state-owned oil and chemicals group, has returned to profitability after five years of losses with a record net consolidated group profit in 1985 of more than 800 billion lire (£350 million).

Losses had risen as high as 64 billion lire in 1984, more than 1,400 billion lire in 1983, and 1,500 billion lire in 1982.

ENI's chairman, Senor Franco Reviglio, said in a letter to the Government that that the three-year recovery programme had left the group with a solid base from which to tackle the reorganization and concentration being forced on oil and chemical industries by the changing international energy scene.

The group's oil refining division improved its results last year as a result of severe rationalization which imposed a sharp drop in primary refining capacity. Other divisions doing well were hydrocarbon production and sales, engineering and services. But chemicals, minerals and mining, and textiles reported losses.

The group is increasing its investment for future development. Capital investment rose by 1,000 billion lire in 1985 to reach about 5,700 billion lire (£2.53 billion), Senor Reviglio said. At the same time the group's consolidated debt fell by more than 1,500 billion lire (£660 million).

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STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Shares lack direction

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began Feb.10. Dealings End Feb 21.§ Contango Day Feb 24. Settlement Day, March 3
§ Forward Bargains are permitted on two previous days.

THE TIMES Portfolio

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Your gain or loss
	BANKS DISCOUNT HP	
1	Lloyds	
2	Gerrard Nat	
3	Mercury Secs	
4	First Nat Finance	
5	Provident	
6	Com Bank Wales	
7	Cattles	
8	Royl Bnk of Scot	
9	Aus New Z	
10	Allied Irish	
	BUILDINGS AND ROADS	
11	Persimmon	
12	Manders	
13	Ruberoid	
14	Baggeridge Brick	
15	Wilson (Connolly)	
16	Redland	
17	Rugby Cement	
18	Higgs & Hill	
19	Countryside	
20	Watts Blake	
	INDUSTRIALS S-Z	
21	Sycamore	
22	TNT	
23	Steetley	
24	Waterford Glass	
25	Spencer Clark	
26	Telfos	
27	Vinten	
28	Toplex	
29	Stonehill	
30	Tranwood	
	DRAPERY AND STORES	
31	Ladies Pride	
32	Lee Cooper	
33	LCP	
34	Executex Clothes	
35	Beattie (James) "A"	
36	Harris Queensway	
37	Courts (Furn) "A"	
38	Ford (Martin)	
39	Lincroft Kilgour	
40	Grattan	
	© Times Newspapers Ltd. Daily Total	

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £20,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

THE TIMES Portfolio

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DAILY DIVIDEND
£4,000
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BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

1985 High Low	Stock	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Red. yld%
92½	Treas C10% 1986	99½	..	10.0
92	Treas 3% 1986	97¼	..	3.1
93⅜	Exch 10½% 1986	99⅜	..	10.6
	Treas 12% 1986	99⅝	..	12.0
87½	Exch 2½% 1986	96⅛	..	2.6
98	Exch 14% 1986	101¼	..	13.8
95½	Exch 13½% 1987	101½	..	13.1
92½	Treas C10½% 1987		..	10.4
84½	Exch 2½% 1987	94½	●-⅛	2.6
94½	Exch 10½% 1987	99½	..	10.6
88	Fund 6½% 1985-87	95½	+⅛	6.8
82½	Treas 10% 1987		..	10.2
83¼	Treas 3% 1987	92½	..	3.2
94	Treas 12% 1987	100¼	..	11.9
89⅝	Treas 7¾% 1985-88	95	..	8.2
91½	Exch 10½% 1988	98½	..	10.7
90½	Treas C9½% 1988	97	..	10.1
79½	Treas 3% 1978-88	90	+⅛	3.3
89⅞	Treas 9½% 1988	95½	..	8.9
97½	Treas 11½% 1989	100½	●..	11.4
90½	Treas 10½% 1989	98½	-⅛	10.7
90½	Exch 10% 1989	98½	-⅛	10.3
90½	Exch 10½% 1989	99¼	-⅛	10.4
90½	Exch 11% 1989	99⅛	●+⅛	11.0
79	Treas 5% 1986-89	89½	..	5.8
94½	Exch 11% 1990	99¼	..	11.0
88	Treas C9% 1989	95¼	..	10.0
79	Treas 3% 1989	84¼	+⅛	3.6
100	Treas 13% 1990	105	..	12.3
98½	Exch 12½% 1990	104⅞	..	11.9
75½	Treas 3% 1990	80½	..	3.7
86⅛	Treas 8½% 1987-90	91½	+⅛	9.0
91½	Treas 10% 1990	98	-⅛	10.4

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

1985 High Low	Stock	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Red. yld%
98½	Treas 11¾% 1991	102½	-⅛	11.5
79	Fund 5¾% 1987-91	85½	..	8.7
95½	Exch 11% 1991	99⅜	+⅛	11.0
100	Treas 12¾% 1992	107½	+⅛	11.8
87½	Treas 10% 1992	96¼	●+⅛	10.4
94	Treas C10½% 1992	98	+⅛	10.7
98½	Exch 12½% 1992	105⅞	●+⅛	11.8
102½	Exch 13½% 1992	111	●+⅛	12.2
74½	Fund 6% 1993	81⅞	●..	7.4
106	Treas 13¾% 1993	113⅜	+⅛	12.1
105	Treas 14½% 1994	119⅛	●+⅛	12.2
107	Exch 12½% 1994	112½	+⅛	12.0
97½	Exch 13½% 1994	108⅝	●..	11.5
83	Treas 9% 1994	90½	+⅛	10.0
97	Treas 12% 1995	105⅛	..	11.3
61¼	Gas 3% 1990-95	70⅞	..	4.3
88	Exch 10½% 1995	96⅞	+⅛	10.8
104	Treas 12¾% 1995	110⅝	+⅛	11.5
109	Treas 14% 1996	117⅝	+⅛	11.9
84¼	Treas 9% 1992-96	90½	●..	9.9
120	Treas 15¼% 1996	126	..	12.1
108	Exch 13¼% 1996	114⅜	..	11.5
105	Treas 13¼% 1997	115⅝	..	11.5
89	Exch 10½% 1997	98½	●-⅛	10.7
79½	Treas 8¾% 1997	88⅜	●..	9.9
119	Exch 15% 1997	127⅜	..	11.9
122	Treas 15½% 1998	130⅜	..	11.9
102	Exch 12% 1998	108⅜	..	11.0
85½	Treas 9½% 1999	93⅜	..	10.1
103	Exch 12¼% 1999	111	●..	11.0
93	Treas 10½% 1999	100	..	10.5
91	Conv 10¼% 1999	98½	..	10.4
108	Treas 13% 2000	117¼	-⅛	11.1

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

1985 High Low	Stock	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Red. yld%
91⅜	Treas 10% 2001	97⅜	●..	10.2
89	Conv 9¾% 2001	96	..	10.2
114½	Treas 14% 1998-01	121⅜	..	11.5
92½	Conv 10% 2002	97⅝	..	10.2
100	Exch 12% 1999-02	109½	..	11.0
90	Treas 9¾% 2002	96⅛	●..	10.1
93	Treas 10% 2003	98⅛	-⅛	10.1
112½	Treas 13¾% 2000-03	122⅜	-⅛	11.2
101	Treas 11½% 2001-04	108⅛	●..	10.6
94	Treas 10% 2004	98⅛	..	10.2
46	Fund 3½% 1999-04	51⅜	-⅛	6.8
90	Conv 9½% 2005	94⅜	..	10.1
94	Exch 10½% 2005	102⅛	●..	10.2
110	Treas 12½% 2003-05	118⅛	..	10.7
78	Treas 8% 2002-06	82½	-⅛	9.7
102	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	111⅞	-⅛	10.8
115	Treas 13½% 2004-08	125	-⅛	10.8
57	Treas 5½% 2008-12	61⅛	●-⅛	9.0
74½	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	80⅛	-⅛	9.6
111	Exch 12% 2013-17	118⅛	..	10.1

UNDATED

1985 High Low	Stock	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Red. yld%
36	Consols 4%	39⅛	..	10.0
33½	War Ln 3½%	35⅞	..	9.8
41	Conv 3½%	46½	..	7.5
29	Treas 3%	30⅛	..	9.9
23	Consols 2½%	25⅜	..	9.9
23½	Treas 2½%	25	..	9.9

INDEX-LINKED

1985 High Low	Stock	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Red. yld%
	Treas IL 2% 1988	117⅜	..	2.2
	Treas IL 2% 1990	101⅞	..	2.2
	Treas IL2% 2003	97¼	+⅛	3.1
	Treas IL 2% 2006	100⅛	+⅛	2.8
	Treas IL2½% 2009	96	+⅛	3.2
	Treas IL2½% 2011	100⅜	●+⅛	3.2
	Treas IL2½% 2013	84⅜	●+⅛	3.2
	Treas IL2½% 2016	91½	+⅛	3.2
	Treas IL2½% 2020	89⅜	+⅛	3.2

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
	30	Allied Irish	210	+2	9.0	4.3	..
	16	Ansbacher (Henry)	80	+2	15.0n	8.4	40.4
		Aus New Z	233	..			
		Bankamerica	£13⅜				
		Bank Of Ireland	400	-5	17.0	4.3	..
		Bank Leumi Israel	18½				
		Bank Leumi UK	240	●..	16.0	6.7	11.2
		Brown Shipley	430	..	13.2	3.1	18.6
		Cater Allen	478	..	41.3	8.6	11.8
		Cattles	43½	+4	2.9	5.3	14.8
		Chase Manhattan	£35⅞	●-⅛	354	10.6	..
		Citicorp	£55⅞	-1⅛	305	5.9	..
		Clive	40	+1	1.3	3.3	7.3
		Com Bank Wales	63	●+4	2.4	3.4	8.7
		Commerzbank	289	-1	6.0	0.1	..
		Deutsche Bank	£232	+1	200	3.2	..
179	74½	First Nat Finance	175	●+½	4.0	2.3	10.6
372	249	Gerrard Nat	287	+3	18.9	6.6	16.7
82	55	Guinness Peat	78	●-1	2.7	3.5	12.5
246	131	Hambros	233	-2	9.8	4.1	19.5
31	12½	Do (50p)	230	+1	65.7	3.2	25.1
378	273	Hill Samuel	373	..	17.0	4.6	9.6
98	61½	HKJ Shanghai	68½	-1	..		
665	375	Kleinwort Benson	665	+5	21.4r	3.2	12.3
514	346	Lloyds	484	+6	26.9	5.5	7.4
42	22	Mason	34	..	2.1	6.2	13.0
793	388	Mercury Secs	793	-5	22.9	2.9	12.3
504	322	Midland	477	+6	36.4	7.5	7.9
270	173	Nat Aust Bk	230				
724	567	Nat West	684	+10	37.8	5.4	5.9
100	68½	Ottoman	£100				
349	193	Provident	348	+4	15.7	4.5	14.7
80	58	Rea Bros	73	..	1.8	2.5	21.7
116	82	Rothschild (J) Hld	114	..	6.5	5.7	13.6
21¼	14¼	Royl Bnk Of Can	£14½	-¼			
294	216	Royl Bnk Of Scot	288	+2	13.7	4.8	8.4
12¾	728	Schroders	£11¼	..	26.4	2.2	16.5
70	35	Smith St Aubyn	36	..	1.0	2.8	3.8
542	419	Stand Chart	492	+20	42.1	8.7	7.5
55⅞	36⅝	Wells Fargo	£51⅝	-1¼			
280	220	Wintrust	240	..	7.1	3.0	15.2

BREWERIES

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
305	153	Allied-Lyons	285	●+2	11.6	4.1	16.8
682	471	Bass	570	..	21.0	3.1	14.3
61	36	Belhaven	48	..	1.1	2.4	25.4
100	88	Boddingtons	94	..	4.2	4.5	13.6
573	259	Brown (Matthew)	410	..	20.0	4.9	15.1
189	119	Bulmer (H P)	167	●-2	7.9	4.2	13.5
530	405	Burtonwood Brew	475	●..	14.3	3.0	11.1
485	225	Clark (Matthew)	480	-5	10.7	2.2	19.4
805	417	Devenish (J A)	805	+5	18.6	2.3	23.6
638	270	Distillers	628	+2	22.9	3.6	17.4
198	159	Greenall Whitley	197	-1	7.9r	4.7	11.9
254	146	Greene King	200	+2	7.2	3.6	14.2
325	225	Guinness	285	●-15	10.3	3.6	10.8
85	69	Highland Dist	75	..	2.8	3.7	15.2
177	124	Invergordon Dist	181	+1	8.1	3.6	11.7
215	120	Irish Dist	215	..	6.0	2.8	..
93	57	Marston Thompson	86	..	2.9	3.4	14.9
239	179	Morland	227	..	9.1	4.0	12.8
338	106	SA Breweries	230	-2			
194	128	Scot & New	183	+4	10.0r	5.5	12.5
40½	27½	Seagram	£35	-⅛	41.1	1.2	..
410	258	Vaux	383	..	15.8	4.0	16.2
280	184	Whitbread 'A'	251	+1	10.2	4.1	12.8
278	185	Do 'B'	253	+3	10.2	4.0	12.9
236	162	Whitbread Inv	205	..	9.8	4.8	30.2
453	270	Wolv'hmptn & D	453	+5	12.2	2.7	18.5
245	185	Young 'A'	200	..	9.4	4.7	16.0

BUILDINGS AND ROADS

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
60	29	Amcliffe	58	..	0.1n	0.2	8.9
150	82	Atwoods	149	-1	5.7	3.8	13.7
401	208	BPB Industries	398	-2	11.6	2.9	15.9
353	204	Baggeridge Brick	324	+5	9.8	3.0	11.7
138	84	Barratt Devs	132	-2	10.9	8.3	..
34	19	Bailey(Ben) Constr	23	..	0.4	1.7	4.8
153	113	Bellway	153	+1	10.0	6.5	17.2
71	60	Benford Concrete	71	..	3.4	7.8	37.4
87	51	Bett Bros	86	●-1	4.4	6.7	18.6
925	545	Blockleys	908	..	32.9	3.7	12.9
608	468	Blue Circle	570	-10	28.6	5.0	7.8
253	194	Breedon&Cloud Hill	253	..	13.6	5.4	30.5
89	59	Brickhouse Dudley	89	..	4.9	5.5	15.1
86	55	Br Dredging	68	..	3.6	5.5	14.7
29	11	Brown & Jackson	25	..	..	..	17.9
93	56	Brownlee	87	-2	4.4	8.8	7.5
155	148	Cakebread Robey	150	..	4.4	2.9	23.0
100	50	Cement-Roadstone	97	..	4.0	4.1	..
70	42	Conder Grp	68	..	2.1	3.1	29.1
526	336	Costain	480	-2	22.1	4.6	10.1
326½	184	Countryside	324	●+4	8.2	2.5	8.7
156	94	Crouch (Derek)	146	-6	7.9	5.3	32.4
116	80	Dew (George)	90	..	8.6	9.6	8.4
96	45	Douglas (RM)	86	●..	2.5r	2.8	15.6
72	58	Erith	72	+1	4.4	6.1	11.5
173	81	Feb	88	..	4.2	6.1	11.3
92	54	Do 'A'	62	..	4.2	6.8	8.4
96	63	Finlan Gp	85	●..	5.4	6.3	25.4
88	64	Galliford	80	..	6.3	7.9	13.0
116	103	Gibbs & Dandy Ord	106	..	2.3	2.2	35.9
290	204	Gleeson (MJ)	284	..	7.7	2.7	9.8
119	89	HAT	101	●+1	5.4	5.3	10.5
178	114	Heywood Williams	174	-1	8.9	5.1	10.2
503	281	Higgs & Hill	501	+3	18.3	3.7	13.6
180	129	Ibstock Johnsen	156	+2	6.1	3.9	12.0
328	260	Jarvis (J) & Sons	275	..	25.0	9.1	9.4
349	199	Laing (J)	349	+1	8.9	2.6	11.1
348	198	Do 'A'	339	+1	8.9	2.6	10.8
99	67	Lawrence (Walter)	97	r..	5.2r	5.4	7.1
79	58	Lilley (FJC)	76	..	5.3	7.0	11.5
338	196	Lovell (YJ)	338	●+2	10.0	3.0	11.9
160	104	Magnet & South	136	●-2	6.7	4.9	14.1
202	161	Manders	195	+7	10.9	5.6	12.3
188	110	Marshalls (Halifax)	173	..	7.1	4.1	12.8
107	74	May & Hassell	102	..	5.4e	5.3	..
338	232	McAlpine (Alfred)	338	..	18.1	4.8	11.4
200	112	Meyer Int	196	-3	7.7	3.9	10.8
28	14	Miller (Stanley)	23	..	0.7	3.0	..
880	600	Newarthill	880	..	15.7	1.8	18.2
201	143	Nottingham Brick	193	..	9.3	4.8	14.4
138	86	Persimmon	132	+6	6.6	4.9	10.1
150	86	Phoenix Timber	102	..	4.3	4.2	3.8
385	180	Pochins	380	..	18.4	4.8	3.4
528	342	RMC	528	+2	18.9	3.6	11.9
404	256	Redland	404	+4	15.5	3.8	14.8
177	93	Roberts Adlard	156	..	8.6	5.5	13.1
233	145	Ruberoid	233	+2	11.1	4.8	12.3
183	116	Rugby Cement	183	+6	8.9	6.5	12.0
273	132	SGB	262	●..	10.7	4.1	10.0
97	62	Sharpe & Fisher	85	..	3.2	2.4	14.9
79	53	Smart (J)	74	..	6.2	8.4	15.7
410	227	Tarmac	410	+8	11.7	2.9	17.1
558	348	Taylor Woodrow	526	..	21.4	4.1	14.3
162	108	Tilbury Group	132	..	7.0	4.8	13.1
107	67	Trent	89	..	1.6	1.8	12.0
343	143	Turriff	185	..	10.0	8.1	30.4
343	135	Vibroplant	241	●..	13.4	5.6	10.6
286	128	Ward	261	-21	9.6	3.7	13.5
95	58	Warrington (T)	65	..	5.7a	8.8	7.4
230	173	Watts Blake	198	+6	6.0	3.0	18.0
78	62	Westem Bros	78	..	1.4n	1.8	15.2
50	28	Wiggins	48	+1	..	..	..
338	172	Wilson (Connolly)	338	+4	4.5	1.3	18.8
170	97	Wimpey (George)	167	..	4.6	2.8	15.8

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
44¾	33⅜	AKZO N/V Bearer	£43⅝	+⅛	400	9.1	..
256	121	Allied Colloids	188	●..	3.3	2.0	17.5
383	273	Amersham	328	..	8.9	2.7	15.0
280	180	Anchor Chemical	235	+6	6.1	2.6	8.7
122	100	Blagden	120	-2	10.3	8.6	9.9
134	104	Brent Chems	125	..	5.1	4.1	16.5
75	9½	Br Benzol	71	+6	..	..	78.9
107	79	Canning (W)	88	+1	5.1	5.8	13.0
273	224	Coalite	253	..	9.5	3.8	13.2
186	131	Coates Bros	145	-2	6.6	4.6	8.8
188	112	Do 'A'	117	..	6.6	5.6	7.1
28	14	Cory (Horace)	16	-1	0.7	4.4	5.4
151	116	Croda	135	+1	10.0	7.4	14.0
108	82	Do Dfd	106	+1	..	..	11.0
227	158	Ellis & Everard	198	●..	8.8	4.5	17.2
258	175	Fosesco-Minsep	242	-2	11.9	4.9	8.5
137	86	Halstead (James)	128	..	5.7	4.5	9.8
488	318	Hickson	400	-3	21.4	5.4	9.1
90	51	Hoechst DM50	£90	+1			
884	630	Imp Chem Ind	861	+2	44.3	5.1	8.5
188	141	Plysu	188	-1	3.3	1.8	18.6
82	53	Reabrook Hldgs	68	..	3.0	4.4	13.9
182	128	Rentokil	167	-1	3.2	1.9	22.7
288	94	SNIA BPD	282	-1			
328	182	Wolstenholme Rink	208	..	11.1	5.3	8.5
92	56	Yorkshire Chem	92	+5	2.5e	2.7	15.3

CINEMAS AND TV

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
200	180	Anglia TV 'A'	200	..	12.5	6.5	14.0
64	26	Grampian	35	+3	2.4	6.9	7.9
185	118	HTV N/V	180	..	11.0	6.1	8.2
301	218	LWT Hldgs	290	..	20.6	7.1	11.5
250	126	Scot TV 'A'	250	..	12.7	5.1	10.2
186	110	TVS N/V	168	●-5	11.4	6.8	8.1
34½	29	TSW	34½	..	2.4	7.0	9.5

DRAPERY AND STORES

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
100	51½	Beattie (James) 'A'	89	+1	3.0	3.4	14.4
161	80	Bentalls	149	-1	3.1	2.1	30.3
22	9	Blacks Leis	14½	-½	..	n	..
86	46	Bremner	56	..	1.4	2.5	41.8
585	220	Brown (N)	540	-5	13.9	2.6	27.5
317	204	Burtons	258	..	6.3	2.4	17.8
114	83	Cantors 'A'	100	..	3.2	3.2	25.7
54	38	Casket (S)	48	..	3.1	6.7	8.9
356	224	Church	350	..	20.7	5.9	11.8
185	87	Combined English	180	-1	7.7	4.3	25.1
136	95	Courts (Furn) 'A'	122	+1	6.7	5.5	10.1
93	67½	Dewhirst (IJ)	87	-1	1.4	1.6	20.6
10¼	624	Dixons Grp	£10½	●..	8.1	0.8	30.5
408	271	Dunhill	406	..	6.1	1.5	20.5
81	55½	Ellis & Goldstein	75	..	3.3	4.4	10.2
680	390	Elys (Wimbledon)	620	..	12.9	2.1	31.1
88	27	Executex Clothes	73	+3	..	n	13.5
139	72	Fine Art Dev	125	-1	4.7	3.8	22.5
84	25½	Ford (Martin)	84	+2			
186	143	Formminster	185	●..	8.8	4.8	9.5
382	162	Freemans	382	+2	8.3	2.3	21.2
110	79½	Gellier (AJ)	102	..	7.6	7.5	10.0
154	90	Gent SR	70	-4	2.9	4.1	42.2
106	43	Goldberg (A)	101	●..	2.1	2.1	75.4
237	153	Goldsmiths Gp	186	..	10.7	5.8	13.1
394	152	Grattan	376	+6	5.7	1.5	24.1
13⅛	684	GUS	£12⅞	●..	26.8	2.1	20.8
915	674	Do 'A'	889	●-1	26.8	3.0	14.5
288	166	Harris Queensway	220	+4	5.9	2.7	20.3
29½	22	Helene Of London	26	..	2.3	8.8	8.4
47	21	Hollas	37	●..	3.0	8.1	15.4
369	240	Home Charm	282	..	4.2	1.5	20.6
33	21	Ladies Pride	28	+2	2.1	7.2	21.5
134	93	LCP	132	+2	6.0	4.5	22.5
229	100	Lee Cooper	180	+7	5.3	2.9	8.4
845	370	Liberty	810	..	10.0	1.2	37.8
190	142	Lincroft Kilgour	180	+2	10.0	5.6	9.2
135	111	Marks & Spencer	188	+1	5.1	2.7	27.0
236	218	Menzies (John)	298	..	5.1	1.7	17.4
195	115	Millets Leisure	190	..	2.9	1.5	50.9
815	308	Moss Bros	980	..	7.4	1.3	41.7
150	94	NSS Newsagents	136	+2	5.1	3.7	14.4
244	154	Next	232	..	5.4	2.3	26.9
395	319	Oliver (G)	336	..	11.7	3.5	35.5
640	331	Our Price	545	..	7.9	1.4	34.4
71	33	Peters	66	..	0.5	0.7	25.8
37	55	[illegible] Stores	80	..	1.4	1.8	38.3
118	99	Preedy (Alfred)	110	..	5.5	5.0	19.8
38½	28½	Raybeck	34½	-½	1.1	3.2	..
295	155	Reed (Austin)	285	..	7.1	2.5	32.6
188	96	Do 'A'	146	..	7.1	4.9	16.7
38	18	S & U Stores	32	..	..	..	20.4
189	118	Samuel (H)	185	..	8.0	3.7	41.8
92	72	Do 'A'	73	..	6.0	8.2	18.7
127	78	Sears	121	..	4.4	3.6	15.9
335	200	Simpson (S) 'A'	330	+5	8.2	2.6	12.8
320	160	Smith (WH) 'A'	284	●+2	7.6	2.7	18.4
64	31	Do 'B'	57	●+1	1.5	2.6	19.5
79	42	Stanley (AG)	74	..	3.6	4.9	20.7
115	58	Stelbarg	108	-1	3.5	3.2	15.8
335	273	Storehouse	323	-5	11.0	3.4	20.1
85	23	Sumrie Clothes	40	..	..	..	..
501	373	Superdrug Stores	488	..	8.4	1.5	21.5
57	40	Tern-Consulate	40	..	2.8n	7.3	8.8
61½	27½	Time Products	61	..	2.5	4.1	12.7
231	140	WW Group	200	..	11.3	5.7	7.5
338	203	Ward White	285	-2	8.5	3.0	16.6
148	86	Wigfalls	138	..	3.5n	3.7	..
610	277½	Woolworth	488	-5	12.9	2.6	20.9

ELECTRICALS

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
537	175	AB Elect	312	+2	11.4	3.7	23.3
356	63	Amstrad	334	+2	1.6	0.5	23.2
265	49	Apricot Computers	67	+3	2.1	3.1	5.3
80	28	Arlen	80	..			
303	185	Atlantic Comp	260	+17	2.4	0.9	14.5
60	25	Audio Fidelity	51	..	..	..	18.3
200	135	Auto Sec	163	-2	1.9	1.2	12.7
301	185	BICC	290	+2	15.1	5.2	12.1
185	48	BSR	96	..	2.4r	2.5	8.4
494	308	Bowthorpe	474	..	8.2	1.7	22.9
208	104½	Br Telecom 50p P	185	●-1	9.9	5.4	12.2
97	70	Brown Boveri Kent	85	..	3.6	4.2	11.8
31	18	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	13½	..	1.9	14.1	31.4
300	95	CASE	108	..	1.9	1.7	9.1
853	448	Cable & Wireless	810	●..	13.6	2.2	28.3
378	183	Cambridge Elec	298	+3	10.2	3.4	13.8
226	128	Do 7½% CPF	191	-2			
285	193	Comcap	230	..	1.7	0.7	17.9
291	200	Cray Elect	285	●..	4.6	1.9	32.7
240	95	Crystalate	173	+6	6.1	3.5	10.5
85	61	Dale Elect	71	-1	8.4	9.0	34.7
180	97	Dataserv	173	+3	1.0	0.6	..
37	14	Dewhurst 'A'	32½	●-½	1.5	4.6	7.3
310	245	Domino	305	-5	2.6	0.8	25.1
48	31	Dowding & Mills	41	..	2.0	4.9	13.1
206	134	Dubilier	185	..	4.0	2.1	13.8
418	255	Electrocomponents	410	-1	7.9	1.9	25.4
65	36	Electronic Mach	61	●-1	1.0	1.6	83.6
55	38	Electronic Rentals	47	●+1	4.6	9.8	18.5
263	156	Emess Lighting	257	..	7.9	3.1	27.1
388	258	Eurotherm	340	●..	6.8	2.0	17.3
221	138	Farnell Elect	210	+2	2.9	1.4	24.1
40	28	Forward Tech	34	..	..	..	17.2
220	150	GEC	202	●-2	5.8	2.9	13.6
184	94	Grosvenor	94	-1	8.2	8.7	7.8
129	78	Highland Elect	105	+1	3.8	3.4	13.4
150	130	ISL	146	-2	1.7	1.1	18.5
353	243	Int Signal & Control	393	+15	1.0	0.3	..
200	130	Jones Stroud	162	..	10.7	5.9	8.8
215	65	Kode	95	..	7.1	7.5	8.1
341	218	Lec Refrigeration	240	..	17.9	7.2	6.9
368½	98	Logica	147	-5	1.4	1.0	15.9
335	220	MK Elect	318	..	14.6	4.6	10.4
400	235	Memec	388	..	3.6	0.9	36.3
235	34	Micro BS	76	..	2.5	3.3	12.0
370	100	Micro Focus	195	-10	..	n	..
98	33	Multitone Elec	48	..	4.0n	8.3	38.1
94	59	Murray Elect	82	..	0.1	0.2	..
102½	76½	NEI	98½	-2½	7.5	7.6	16.7
172	22	Oceonics	43	..	1.1	2.6	8.7
450	238	Oxford Instruments	448	●+2	2.0	0.4	24.1
58	43	Petbow	48	..	1.6	3.3	17.5
44	24	Plicom	29	..	1.6	5.5	8.1
184¾	95¾	Philips Fin 5⅜%	£182⅞	-½	575	3.3	..
17½	10	Philips Lamps N/V	£16⅞	-½			
205	115	Pirco	190	..	7.5	3.9	10.4
180	111½	Do 'A' Ltd Voting	150	..	7.5	5.0	8.2
214	114	Plessey	210	+2	6.3	3.0	16.8
20⅞	13⅞	Do ADR 25	£20	+⅛			
198	65	Pressac	145	..	3.1	2.1	21.1
30	22	Quest Automation	23	-10	..	..	11.0
288	120	Racal Elect	186	●-8	4.3	2.2	12.5
196	142	Rotaflex	186	+3	6.7	3.6	11.5
503	382	Scholes (GH)	490	+2	28.6	5.8	11.0
289	72	STC	102	..	..	n	5.2
197	137	Stone Inst	171	●..	6.5	3.6	10.7
119	74	System Designers	110	+2	0.6	0.5	40.4
21¾	10¾	TDK	£14½	-¼			
230	169	Telephone Rentals	186	..	10.0	5.4	13.5
400	89	Telemetrix	108	-2	2.5	2.3	8.2
484	301	Thorn EMI	437	●..	25.0	5.7	15.6
185	149	Thorpe (FW)	177	..	5.8	3.2	8.8
365	168	Tunstall Telecom	270	..	2.4	0.9	18.6
288	158	UEI	282	..	7.5	2.9	23.4
308	173	Unitech	258	+5	8.5	3.3	13.8
350	226	Utd Leasing	246	..	5.3	2.1	7.9
270	150	Utd Scientific	160	●-3	8.1	5.1	13.2
358	244	VG Instruments	356	+4	2.7	0.8	30.8
258	123	Volex	251	●..	11.4	4.5	10.4
65	40	Western Selection	54	..	3.9	7.2	12.6

FINANCE AND LAND

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
334	210	Abingworth	285	-1	1.8	0.6	..
193	126	Aitken Hume	165	-1	11.0	6.7	8.9
345	200	Antofagasta	340	-5	20.0	5.9	5.5
151	70	Berkeley Tech	120	..	..	..	..
28½	17½	Camellia	£25	..	15.7	0.6	..
218	159	Candover	194	..	2.9	1.5	57.6
36	10	Centreway	18	..	..	n	..
20¾	16¼	Equity & Gen	18¾	..	1.3	6.9	6.4
193	91	Ivory & Sime	168	..	6.1	3.6	29.3
173	114	Majedie	165	..	8.9	5.4	23.6
47	37	Nat Home Loans	43	+1			
48¼	38	Do 8%	£43	+2	800	18.6	..

FOODS

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
186	128	ASDA-MFI	142	●..	4.1	2.9	18.1
27	18	Alpine Drinks	22	..	2.6	11.8	..
375	253	Argyll	335	-10	11.1n	3.3	16.3
270	194	AB Food	250	●..	8.0	3.1	12.5
679	559	Avana	594	●..	16.8	2.8	18.2
260	195	Banks (Sidney C)	248	..	14.6	5.9	7.3
13½	6	Barker & Dobson	12½	+1	..	..	20.2
365	183	Barr (AG)	305	●..	12.1	4.0	8.7
206	133	Bassett Foods	183	+23	9.7	5.3	10.6
128	85½	Batleys	98	●..	3.0	3.1	11.6
195	140	Bejam	168	..	5.4	3.2	20.1
83	60	Bluebird Conf	80	..	7.4	9.3	22.7
88	37½	Br Vending (BVI)	68	+1	1.7	2.5	15.5
177	131	Cadbury-Schweppes	168	-3	8.4	5.0	11.9
180	108	Carrs Milling	173	..	8.6	5.0	9.5
185	130	Clifords Dairies	165	..	8.6	5.2	13.8
182	115	Do 'A'	182	+2	9.6	5.3	13.6
315	119	Cullens	270	+15			
285	149	Dee	255	●..	9.7	3.8	28.3
171	94	Fisher (Albert)	168	..	3.2	1.9	22.4
272	199	Fitch Lovell	266	●..	14.6	5.4	20.3
848	548	Hazlewood Foods	813	..	11.4	1.4	28.3
226	160	Hillards	185	..	4.4	2.4	18.3
218	143	Hillsdown Hldgs	200	-3	5.3	2.7	23.1
95	52	Home Farm	79	+1	4.6	5.8	8.1
612	389	Iceland Frozen	547	+6	8.6	1.6	27.4
244	170	Kwik Save	234	+4	6.9	2.9	17.2
160	47½	Lees (John J)	108	..	2.1	2.9	15.5
65	47	Lovell (GF)	65	..	4.3	6.6	47.1
600	498	Low (Wm)	545	..	17.1	3.1	17.2
580	254	Matthews (Bernard)	575	-5	11.1	1.9	27.2
113	76½	Meat Trade Supp	93	●..	7.5	8.1	14.1
169	94	Morrison (W)	168	..	1.7	1.1	24.1
270	197	Nichols (JN) (Vimto)	245	..	7.9	3.2	19.4
83	67½	Normans	74½	..	2.6	3.5	16.4
304	204	Nthn Foods	278	●+2	10.4	3.7	15.0
170	130	Nurdin & Peacock	154	..	5.2	3.4	14.8
485	340	Rowntree Mac	445	+2	16.3	3.7	12.6
390	286	Sainsbury (J)	372	..	6.6	1.8	24.4
145	117	Salvesen (Chris)	142	..	4.1	2.9	18.7
190	20	Somportex	172	-2	..	..	..
603	418	Tate & Lyle	583	-7	31.4	5.4	11.8
325	219	Tesco	325	●+2	7.4	2.3	22.8
240	140	Unigate	238	●+1	12.4	5.2	15.9
293	154	Utd Biscuits	218	-1	10.9	5.0	11.9
156	90	Watson & Philip	140	●..	8.3	5.9	17.5

HOTELS AND CATERERS

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
413	275	Grand Met	383	-5	14.3	3.7	11.7
282	188	Kennedy Brookes	260	-2	2.1	0.8	13.4
339	241	Ladbroke	339	+8	15.0	4.4	20.5
465	348	Lon Park Hotels	450	..	14.3r	3.2	19.5
96	77	Mount Charlotte	93½	..	1.8	1.9	17.3
112	87	Prince Of W Hotels	72	..	2.1	2.9	13.0
78	29	Stakis	71	-2	1.7	2.4	17.5
189	119	Trusthouse Forte	160	●-2	7.8	4.9	15.9

INDUSTRIALS A - D

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
216	118	AAH	213	..	9.7	4.6	18.9
257	182	AGB Research	214	●-3	9.6	4.5	28.0
128	93	AIM	96	●..	8.2	8.5	10.8
301	216	APV	283	-2	16.1	5.7	32.4
112	71	Aaronson	88	..	6.0	6.8	9.3
222	148	Adwest	198	..	11.1	5.6	12.8
280	136	Alexandra W'wear	250	..	7.1	2.7	20.0
145	85	Amber Ind	130	..	9.7	7.5	9.4
374	88	Appledore	374	●+4	8.6	2.3	20.6
42	24	Aranson	33	..	..	..	6.7
30	15½	Armour	27	..	0.3	1.1	13.9
303	165	Ass Br Eng 8%	288	..	11.4	3.8	..
406	303	Assoc Heat	370	+4	16.7	4.5	17.9
45	15½	Aurora	44	+2	1.1r	2.5	12.8
345	218	Avon Rubber	285	..	8.1	2.7	10.6
75	25	Ayrshire Metal	75	..	2.1	2.8	20.2
211	52	BBA	200	+1	2.9n	1.5	25.0
408	278	BET Dfd	405	+2	21.8	5.4	16.5
87	50	BETEC	70	..	2.1	3.0	9.1
339	248	BOC	323	-1	13.4	4.1	12.3
438	296	BTR	423	..	10.5	2.5	24.3
197	118	Babcock	188	+1	11.9	6.3	10.5
30½	13½	Bailey (CH)	22½	+¼	..	..	25.7
465	325	Baird (Wm)	461	-2	26.0r	5.6	10.8
264	160	Baker Perkins	264	+12	10.2	3.9	11.2
175	54	Barro Ind	175	..	7.9	4.5	20.2
151	112	Barham	147	-1	2.9	2.0	22.2
210	130	Barton Transport	180	..	25.7	14.3	5.5
61	23	Baynes (Charles)	32	●..	2.2	6.9	..
184	138	Beatson Clarke	163	-3	9.4	5.8	7.7
108	66	Beaulord	108	..	6.6	6.3	9.8
391	275	Beecham	373	+6	16.1	4.3	15.5
..	..	Bellair Cosmetics					
48	18	Benlox	22	-2	1.5	7.3	12.2
190	132	Benford (S&W)	151	-2	15.0	9.9	4.6
116	73	Berisfords	111	●..	7.5	5.8	10.7
327	100	Bespak	119	●..	6.1	5.1	6.8
345	204	Bestobell	259	..	..	n	13.6
438	129	Bestwood	420	-7	8.6r	2.0	52.8
33	15	Bevan (DF)	33	..	2.0r	6.1	6.6
305	220	Bibby (J)	295	..	9.5	3.2	18.0
188	136	Biddle	143	..	14.3	10.0	7.1
103	61	Billam (J)	93	-3	4.0	4.3	5.9
174	75	Black Arrow	174	..	6.4	3.7	14.6
243	180	Black (Peter)	218	..	2.4	1.1	20.5
44½	22	Blackwood Hodge	41½	-½	..	..	18.0
214	79	Bodycote	214	..	8.6	4.0	10.6
308	223	Booker McConnell	303	..	16.4	5.4	12.6
274	180	Boots	235	-2	9.3	4.0	16.3
10½	5¼	Boulton (Wm)	8½				
369	214	Bowater	325	+2	12.5	3.8	12.0
94	15	Bowater Inc	£19¼	-¾			
139	75	Braithwaite Grp	118	..	13.0a	11.0	..
412	277	Brammer	348	..	17.9	5.1	17.7
72	38	Brasway	69	●-1	3.2	4.6	10.0
57	30	Brengreen	40	+2½	2.1	5.3	12.7
54	28	Bridgend Gp	40				
150	97	Bridon	128	-1	6.1	4.8	9.9
185	89½	Bridport-Gundry	185	+1	7.1	3.8	14.5
227	77	Br Syphon	112	..	3.8	3.4	29.9
383	153	Br Vita	228	..	9.3	4.1	9.3
383	227½	Broken Hill	325	+2			
47	24	Bromsgrove Inds	47	..	1.8	3.4	10.4
19	10½	Bronx Eng	16	..	0.7	4.4	..
34	22	Brooke Tool	30	●-1	1.8	8.0	8.1
175	121	Brown & Tawse	175	■..	9.6	5.5	11.9
38	21	Brown (John)	21				
78	50	Brunons (Mus)	55	-1	4.3	7.8	12.4
283	184	Bullough	271	●+3	11.7	4.3	12.9
172	110	Burgess	148	..	2.9	2.0	14.1
71	38	Burns-Anderson	61½	..	3.9	6.3	13.3
69	28	Camford Eng	59	-1	2.5	4.2	7.0
38	25½	Capero Ind	35	+1	2.4	6.9	14.3
66	33	Cape Ind	65	+2	..	..	4.6
295	162	Carclo Eng	280	●..	17.9r	6.4	6.7
27	10	Carraway Ind	15	..	..	n	30.8
60	40	CH Ind	50	●..	3.1	6.2	8.0
85½	65½	Chamberlain Ph	70½	..	5.5	7.8	8.1
64	48	Chamberlin & Hill	61	..	5.0	6.2	8.5
230	186	Charter Cons	228	..	15.7	6.9	44.8
588	401	Chemring	588	+5	19.3	3.3	12.8
330	208	Christies Int	323	+7	7.9	2.4	16.8
44	31	Christy Hunt	37	-1	..	..	10.5
190	73	Clarke (Clement)	175	..	6.5	3.7	27.1
145	62	Clayton Son	113	..	10.7	9.5	6.8
530	380	Cohen (A)	410	●..	15.4	3.8	7.8
191	102	Coloroll Gp	181	-2	6.5	3.6	16.4
15	7	Combined Tech	14½	-½			
86	61	Concentric	82	-2	5.3	6.5	11.2
29	20	Cont Stationery	27	..	2.5	9.3	5.8
270	135	Cope Allman	266	..	10.0	3.7	12.4
70	22	Copson (F)	50	..	2.1	4.2	28.1
75½	55	Cosalt	70	..	3.9	5.6	10.8
385	210	Courtney Pope	380	..	12.1	3.4	11.5
81	31	Cowan De Groot	76	●-3	3.2	4.2	33.9
142	80	Crest Nicholson	141	..	5.9	4.2	10.7
178	126	Crown House	178	..	11.1	6.2	10.2
287½	148½	Cummins 3¼%	£183½	..	375	1.9	..
43	22	DSC	39	..	0.7n	1.8	..
483	330	DPCE	465	..	4.6	1.0	33.8
253	166½	Dalgety	250	..	17.9	7.2	9.5
28⅝	15¼	Dana	£22	-⅛			
68	33	Davies & Met 'A'	63	..	3.2	6.0	..
220	133	Davies & Newman	200	-5	13.4	6.7	8.4
127	81	Davy	97	-1	3.3	3.5	8.5
940	715	De La Rue	875	+5	42.9	4.9	11.5
218	132	Desoutter	218	+7	9.7	4.4	9.0
18½	10½	Dinkie Heel	18½	-1	0.8	4.3	17.5
323	158	Diploma	320	-1	7.5	2.3	19.8
97½	68	Dobson Park	90	●-1	7.4	8.2	12.9
115	73	Dom	110	●..	7.1	6.5	12.2
118	74	Dominion Int	101	+2	7.6	7.5	7.6
74	26	Duport	72	-½	2.6	3.6	18.5
48	12	Dwek	43	+1	..	..	21.6
91	66	Dyson (J&J)	88	●..	5.7	6.5	21.4
87	64	Do 'A'	78	●..	5.7	7.3	19.0

E - K

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
395	263	Eastern Prod	300	..	14.3	4.8	3.1
178	166	Edbro	178	..	10.0	5.6	7.6
240	148	EIS	236	..	8.9	3.7	14.5
37	27½	Elbeif	34½	..	2.5	7.2	14.8
87	51	Elliott (B)	54	●-1	2.9	5.4	15.9
29⅛	18½	Embart	£25⅛	..	139	5.5	..
315	216	English China Clay	318	+6	15.7	5.0	12.8
30	18⅞	Ericsson (LM) 'B'	£22⅞	-⅛	9.0	0.4	..
160	78	Erskine House	160	+2	4.0	2.5	21.8
170	115	European Ferries	166½	+½	6.1	3.7	11.3
163	101	Do 5% Prf	116	+3	7.1	6.1	..
270	139	Evered	206	+12	4.6	2.3	18.0
140	104	Evode	118	..	4.6	3.9	13.2
154	90	Expamet Int	152	..	7.6	5.0	19.9
408	272	Extel	403	+5	8.6	2.4	23.7
42	23	Falcon	23	..	1.4	6.1	5.9
37	28	Feedex Agric Ind	30	..	1.4	4.7	53.6
150	105	Fenner (JH)	113	..	7.1	6.3	17.8
185	69	Fife Indmar	65	..	5.0r	7.7	8.7
501	280	Fisons	488	-5	6.9	1.4	28.1
48	20	Fobel	41	+1	0.6	1.5	4.9
115	55	Fogarty	112	..	5.7	5.1	43.1
30½	20½	Folkes Group N/V	28	..	1.9	6.8	8.2
172	135	Fothergill & Harvey	160	..	11.8	7.4	14.4
88	43	French (Thomas)	60	●+4	4.1	6.8	..
112	84	GEI Int	103	+5	8.4	8.2	15.3
320	188	GKN	320	+3	15.7	4.9	12.7
280	200	GR	280	..	10.0	3.6	7.7
75	55	Garton Eng	78	..	4.3	5.7	8.2
129	89	Gestetner	129	●+7	2.1	1.6	11.9
134	64	Glaves	134	+4	4.3r	3.2	18.4
18¼	533½	Glaxo	940	+7	14.3	1.5	25.2
288	164	Glynwed	288	-1	13.9	4.9	16.4
85	30	Gomme	84	..	2.9	3.5	6.8
540	433	Goring Kerr	465	..	15.0	3.2	17.8
201	85	Grampian Hldgs	198	-1	7.9	4.0	25.9
70½	38	Habit Precision	65	●..	2.3	3.8	13.7
180	114	Hall Eng	160	+6	11.2	7.0	10.4
186	138	Hall (M)	145	-4	6.8n	4.7	11.2
238	143	Hallite	190	●..	12.9	6.8	13.5
243	155	Halma	241	..	2.2	0.9	38.5
34	19¾	Hampson Ind	29½	●+1	1.7r	5.8	10.8
82	35	Hanimex	42	-1			
191	133½	Hanson	148	-2	5.7	3.9	13.2
190¾	135	Do 8% Cnv	£182	..	800	5.3	..
110½	86¼	Do 5¾%	103	..	8.2	8.0	..
152	92	Hargreaves	151	..	7.0	4.6	17.3
185	127	Harris (Philip)	185	..	12.1	6.2	18.7
513	359	Hawker Siddeley	508	-2	17.4	3.4	11.2
114	88	Hawley	103	..	2.7	2.6	9.0
121	73	Hay (Norman)	105	..	5.4	5.1	14.5
172	120	Hepworth Ceramic	158	+1	9.9	6.3	11.2
140	58	Highgate & Job	135	..	..	n	25.2
83	62	Holks Bros	73	..	..	..	35.7
94	57	Holt Lloyd	82	●+2	5.4	6.6	12.0
180	100	Hopkinsons	178	-2	8.8	4.9	11.7
15	7	Howard Machinery	14½	..			
104	67	Howden	91	-½	4.8	5.3	9.1
14⅛	8⅛	Hudson Bay	£12⅞	-⅛	59.0	4.7	..
268	185	Hunting Assoc	255	-5	10.7	4.2	9.3
108	80	Hunting Group	89	..	8.5	9.6	19.2
269½	201	Hutchison Whampoa	235½	-5½			
148	88	IMI	143	-1	6.7	4.7	12.9
295	190	Isoiron	267	+25	1.8	0.7	48.5
310	205	Jacksons Bourne	253	..	8.5	2.9	15.4
133½	93	Jardine Math	113½	-2½			
490	423	Johnson Cleaners	490	..	28.0	5.7	14.3
170	83	Johnson Matthey	168	..	0.7	0.4	21.3
270	180	Johnston	270	..	10.4	3.9	17.2
79	41	Jones & Shipman	77	+1	4.1	5.3	10.0
171	114	Jourdan (Thomas)	168	-3	9.5	5.7	12.9
36	22	Kalamazoo	24	..	2.9	12.1	8.0
30½	22½	Kalon	30	●-½	1.7	5.7	21.4
235	165	Kelsey Ind	191	●..	11.4	6.0	9.3
125	78	Kennedy Smale	125	..	2.0r	1.6	21.9
385	230	Kershaw (A)	270	..	21.4	7.9	14.0
208	155	Kitchen (Rbt Taylor)	208	..	15.7	7.5	9.2
148	80	Kleen-E-Ze	143	..	7.1	5.0	30.7

L - R

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
32	13	LDH	31	-1	0.5r	1.6	18.7
303	185	Lep	298	..	6.8	2.3	27.5
274	140	Laird	274	+6	8.0	2.9	12.4
174	88	Lamont	160	+8	5.1	3.2	14.1
51	25½	Lawtex	59	..	2.1	3.6	8.2
85	56	Lon & Nthn	69	-½	7.4	10.7	6.1
199	89	Lon Intl	195	-4	6.9	3.0	20.6
165	85	Longton Ind	163	●..	4.3	2.6	21.3
380	157	Low & Bonar	380	-3	12.9r	3.4	12.7
380	221	ML Hldgs	358	●+2	11.1r	3.1	20.1
84	35	MS Int	83	●-1	0.7	0.8	11.9
41½	22½	MY Dart	38½	..	1.2	3.1	44.8
293	144	Macarthys Pharm	298	+2	13.6n	4.6	14.3
150	87½	Macfarlane	126	..	3.2	2.5	20.9
47	34	Maclellan (P&W)	45	..	2.6	5.8	10.0
610	206	Manchester Ship	610	+20	8.6	1.4	20.7
88	51	Manganese Bronze	55	..	4.3	7.8	6.4
122	70½	Marley	108	-2	5.4	5.0	13.3
107	51½	Marling	78	-1	2.3	2.9	9.5
85	45	Marshall (Loxley)	80	..	4.3	5.4	12.5
85	37	Do 'A'	83	..	4.3	5.2	12.9
77	53	Marshalls Univ	72	+2	2.9	4.0	17.8
386	265	Martonair	386	-2	15.7	4.1	13.8
700	376	Metal Box	680	+6	24.6	3.6	10.2
172	106	Metal Closures	132	-1	9.6	7.3	8.3
73	50	Metalrax	73	+1	3.4r	4.7	13.1
85	55	Mitchell Cotts	77½	+1	6.1	7.9	7.8
84	58	Mitchell Somers	75	-1	5.0	6.7	13.9
188	126	Molins	165	+2	11.3	6.8	10.4
254	187	Morgan Crucible	254	..	12.1	4.8	14.9
130	89	Moss (Robert)	103	..	4.4	4.3	11.5
144	74	Newman Tonks	126	●..	7.8	6.2	8.9
85	26	Nolton	59	..	1.4	2.4	68.3
217	147	Norcros	203	..	12.6	6.2	10.2
253	148	Office Elect Mach	210	-3	11.4	5.4	11.7
286	165	Parker Knoll 'A'	270	..	13.6	5.0	9.8
239	123	Park Place	233	..	8.9	3.8	19.7
648	285	Parrish JT	648	+15			
441	286	Pearson	441	+13	13.9	3.2	15.2
31	11	Peek	16½	..	..	..	39.3
97	73	Peerless	95	●-1	9.0n	9.5	12.8
408	258	Pegler-Hattersley	392	-4	21.4	5.5	11.6
400	98	Pentland Ind	380	+5	1.5	0.4	36.5
12½	4½	Photo-Me	£12½	+1	7.5	0.6	32.4
409	248	Pilkington	388	-8	17.9	4.6	8.8
72	48	Plastic Constr	68	-1	4.0	5.9	11.3
715	490	Portals	710	..	27.9	3.9	14.5
314	238	Powell Duffryn	278	+2	21.7	7.9	14.8
140	39	Prestwich Hldgs	136	+8	0.8	0.6	29.4
98	56½	Pritchard Serv	66½	+½	5.4	8.1	7.7
103½	79½	RFD	101	●+2	5.5	5.4	12.5
157	77	RHP	157	r+6	6.1	3.9	11.7
133	72	Radiant Metal	128	..	3.6	2.8	..
564	288	Rank Org	534	-3	21.4	4.0	16.3
166	86	Ransome Sims	166	+1	6.1	3.7	13.4
145	100	Ratcliffs (Gt Bridge)	133	..	5.0	3.8	4.6
710	475	Reckitt & Colman	684	-12	21.1	3.1	17.8
148	68	Redfearn Glass	138	●+3	2.9	2.1	8.2
217	120	Reed Executive	217	..	5.0	2.3	18.0
781	528	Reed Int	754	..	27.5	3.6	13.4
180	83	Relyon	136	..	6.4	4.7	10.5
68½	45	Renold	66	+2	1.0	1.5	9.6
120	86	Restmor	96	●..	5.7	5.9	14.8
438	270	Reuters	423	+25	4.6	1.1	32.0
85	35	Richard (Leics)	61	..	1.4	2.3	5.0
28	18	Richardson West	19	-½	..	n	8.6
159	105	Robertson Res	128	..	3.1	2.4	19.9
228	37	Robinson (Thomas)	220	..	..	n	22.6
58	30	Rockware	38	..	..	..	3.5
192	126	Ropner	136	..	9.3	6.8	8.0
190	126	Do 'A'	134	..	9.3	6.9	7.9
9	3	Rotaprint	5	..	..	..	2.4
137	105	Rotork	131	..	6.9	5.3	10.9
118	83	Russell (A)	114	..	2.0	1.8	61.6

S - Z

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
47	16	SI	24	+1½	2.3a	9.6	5.1
265	131	Sale Tilney	253	..	7.6	3.0	18.0
502	365	Scapa	425	-3	16.1	3.8	9.7
118	86	Scott Greenham	108	+1	4.3	4.0	15.0
132	60	Scott Heritable	132	..	4.0	3.0	15.4
115	88	Scott & Robertson	106	..	3.6	3.4	14.2
164	109½	Securicor	149	-5	1.7	1.1	23.8
154	110	Do 'A'	139	-5	1.6	1.2	22.2
165	116½	Security Serv	144	-10	3.4	2.4	24.4
35	19	Senior Eng	34½	..	2.3	6.7	14.2
99	38	[illegible]	90	..	3.2	3.6	6.0
182	123	Sidlaw	133	●..	12.9	9.7	8.2
731	419	Siebe	731	●+5	17.5	2.4	18.4
43	28	Silentnight	37	..	3.9n	10.5	12.1
260	180	Simon Eng	194	-4	11.4	5.9	7.3
110½	83½	Six Hundred	105	-1½	7.9	7.5	9.5
427	320	Sketchley	420	..	22.4	5.3	17.4
44	28	Smith Whitworth	31	..	0.4	1.3	20.9
264	161	Smiths Ind	262	..	6.4	2.4	20.4
84	50	Sparrow (GW)	77	..	1.1	1.4	90.6
215	93	Spear (JW)	215	..	5.7	2.7	19.5
280	130	Spear & Jackson	280	..	8.6	3.1	12.2
182	35	Spencer Clark	182	●+4	4.3	2.7	8.8
184	122	Spirax-Sarco	182	..	6.7	4.1	13.1
129	58	Staffs Potteries	114	-3	4.3	3.8	11.5
103	50	Stag Furniture	86	..	3.9	4.5	..
119	78	Standard Fireworks	104	..	5.5	5.3	8.1
63	28	Star Comp	55	-8	..	..	24.7
405	282	Staveley	403	..	23.6	5.9	11.2
396	285	Steetley	393	+3	17.9	4.6	12.6
103	58	Sterling Ind	103	●..	3.3	3.2	33.6
203	139	Stocklake	203	-1	17.1	8.4	4.3
120	76	Stonehill	78	-1	8.8	11.0	8.2
52	24	Sutcliffe Speakman	38	..	..	..	34.3
216	112	Suter	216	+5	6.0	2.8	29.4
313	207½	Swire Pacific 'A'	281	-7			
38	6	Sycamore	25	+2			
240	180	Sytone	200	..	14.3	7.2	8.0
427	205	TI	425	+8	14.3	3.4	18.9
153	91	TNT	145	+4	..	r	..
320	94	TSL Thermal	298	-5	4.3	1.8	12.1
531½	331	Tace	470	●..	9.5	2.0	22.0
38¾	21	Takeda Chem	298				
9	5¼	Talbex	8¼	-¼	0.3r	4.8	7.9
84	44	Telfos	82	+1	3.9r	4.8	15.8
183	60	Tex Hldgs	160	..	6.1r	3.8	16.8
95	65	Third Mile	95	..	2.9	3.1	14.3
141	35	Thomson T-Line	141	..	..	n	..
176	104	Tophook	174	..	5.3	3.0	23.6
231	196	Transcontinental	215	●+4	9.6	4.5	15.8
156	105½	Transport Dev	152	-1	8.1	5.3	13.7
19½	7½	Tranwood	16	-1	..	n	20.0
80	36	Triefus	80	..	0.1a	0.1	..
89½	29½	Triplex	67	+2	2.9r	3.3	13.3
148	81	Turner & Newall	142	..	4.1	2.9	8.5
175	94	UKO	163	+9	7.1	4.4	7.6
124	20	Unigroup	117	-1	1.6n	1.4	26.1
14⅛	898	Unilever	£13⅛	..	50.9	3.7	13.1
83⅞	44⅜	Unilever (NV)	£57⅛	-1¼			
235	154	Valor	222	-3	6.7	3.0	11.2
353	210	Vickers	360	-3	15.7	4.4	13.3
140	78	Victor Products	126	..	6.6	5.2	13.3
208	101	Vinten	191	●+4	4.6r	2.4	33.2
165½	52¾	Volkswagen	£165	-2½			
305	142	Vosper	187	-2	..	..	7.3
213	98	Wadkin	213	..	2.1	1.0	..
172	126	Wagon Ind	172	●-6	11.1	6.5	13.1
102	34½	Waterford Glass	101	+3	1.5	1.5	..
185	145	Watshams	173	●..	5.1r	2.9	24.7
269	91	Watson (R Kelvin)	265	..	2.3	0.9	30.0
272	180½	Wedgwood	268	..	10.7	4.0	12.7
84	40	Weir	83½	..	4.1n	4.9	7.0
23	8	Wellman	22½	-½			
118	45	Westland	70	-3	4.3	6.1	24.3
118	68	Wests	117½	..	7.9	6.7	16.2
285	185	Whatman Reeve	240	..	3.1	1.3	21.7
112	84	Whessoe	90	-4	7.9	8.8	7.9
188	136	Whitecroft	199	..	11.3	5.7	10.8
224	128	Wilkes (James)	180	..	9.4	5.2	12.5
503	188	Williams Hldgs	503	+17	10.0	2.0	25.7
188	128	Wills Gp	185	-3	11.4	7.4	44.4
40	18	Wood (SW)	27	..	1.4	5.2	9.6
78	15	Woodhouse & Rix	73	..	2.9	4.0	29.6
89	88	Wyndham Eng	87	..	2.1	2.4	17.3
603	370	Yarrow	563	..	20.0r	3.6	12.0
150	88	Young (H)	148	..	3.9	2.6	14.9

INSURANCE

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
251	185	Abbey Life	203	..	9.4	4.6	..
28⅝	18⅛	Alex & Alex	£25⅛	..	100	4.0	..
28⅝	19½	Am Gen	£28	●-½	69.0	3.2	..
255	190	Bradstock	255	+2	7.9	3.1	17.9
827	580	Britannic	829	..	37.9	4.6	..
350	104	FAI	298	-5			
773	500	Gen Accident	773	+10	28.8	3.7	19.4
885	618	GRE	885	+12	37.9	4.7	23.8
728	545	Heath C E	703	..	31.4	4.5	10.7
321	217	Hogg Robinson	317	●-1	13.4	4.2	15.1
777	545	Legal & Gen	727	-10	32.1	4.4	..
34	19	Lib Life SA R1	£25	-1			
872	642	London & Man	819	..	31.8	3.9	32.4
335	242	Ldn Utd Inv	333	..	18.6	5.6	12.8
70	48¼	Marsh & McLen	£68⅝	..	220	3.3	..
308	181	Minet	266	-2	9.9	3.7	17.5
365	218	PWS	278	-5	12.9	4.6	34.7
14	977	Pearl	£12⅝	..	58.4	4.4	..
819	493	Prudential	794	-6	34.3	4.3	52.4
435	276	Refuge	400	-3	16.8	4.2	..
840	515	Royal	838	+13	34.6	4.1	20.0
450	320	Sturge Hldgs	420	●..	8.6	2.0	28.6
618	391	Sun Alliance	608	+2	22.1	3.6	54.7
904	709	Sun Life	884	+2	30.5	3.5	..
365	220	Trade Indemnity	385	..	12.8	3.5	13.3
460	289	Willis Faber	422	-2	10.4	2.5	28.9

LEISURE

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
146	86	Barr & WA 'A'	123	..	10.0	8.1	9.1
188	133	Boosey & Hawkes	143	..	..	..	21.4
130	98	Brent Walker	104	+1	7.9	7.6	8.8
56	22	Campari	55	+3	1.4	2.5	14.7
226	170	Chrysalis	210	..	8.0	3.8	13.6
433	231	First Leisure	413	..	10.7	2.6	15.8
68½	51½	GRA	58	..	..	..	70.7
75	35	Hamburger Brooks	68	..	..	..	44.4
148	78	Horizon Travel	107	..	6.3	5.9	20.8
140	83	Int Leisure	128	-1	6.9	5.5	9.3
231	88	Juliana's Hldgs	90	-3	3.0	3.3	14.1
205	124	Medminster	145	..	7.6	5.2	9.7
227	147	Saga Holidays	227	+3	6.1	2.7	24.6
304	213½	Samuelson Gp	285	..	3.4	1.2	..
80	52	Tottenham Hotspur	53	..	5.7	10.8	9.8
140	82	Zetters	140	●..	6.1	4.4	12.0

MINING

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
22	8¾	Ang Amer Coal	£11⅜				
11⅛	570	Ang Am	970	-15	54.0	5.6	..
79	28½	Am Gold	£54	-1	448	8.3	..
47½	26¼	AAIT	£44	..	271	6.2	..
39½	21	Anglovaal	£39	-½	142	3.6	..
39½	21	Do 'A'	£39	-½	142	3.6	..
295	158	Ayer Hitam	173	-5	47.5	27.5	..
787	255	Blyvoors	395	-5	79.0	20.0	..
187	71	Bracken	145	..	26.0	17.9	..
37	12¾	Buffels	£17⅝	-¼	282	15.1	..
392	238	CRA	272	-4			
584	397	Cons Goldfields	462	-7	35.0	7.8	11.3
450	257	De Beers	438	+4	18.0	4.1	..
280	95	Deelkraal	175	..	4.0	2.3	..
16⅝	5⅞	Doornfontein	£7⅝	-⅛	92.0	11.9	..
23⅝	8¼	Driefontein	£13⅝	-⅛	126	9.6	..
12½	3¼	Durban	£6⅝	..	..	n	..
318	143	E Daggas	243	-2			
780	275	Elandsrand	494	-11	12.0	2.4	..
160	128	El Oro	148	..	6.0	4.1	12.4
238	80	Elsburg	173	..	14.0	8.0	..
486	233	E Rand Gold	355	..	28.0	7.9	..
730	2⅜	E Rand Prp	£3⅝	..			
213	84	Free State Dev	178	-2			
25	12	FS Geduld	£17⅝	..	182	9.4	..
248	43	Geevor Tin	80	-2	17.1e	28.5	2.3
11	4½	Genbel	£7⅝	+⅛	60.0	7.7	..
12¾	4¾	Gen Mining	£8⅞	..	87.0	9.9	..
93	53	Gopeng	53	..	20.0	37.7	..
850	230	Grootvlei	320	-10	54.0	16.9	..
218	113½	Hampton Areas	125	●-1	5.4	4.3	38.0
13⅝	4⅛	Harmony	£9⅝	..	68.8	7.2	..
355	190	Hartes	300	-20	17.0	5.7	..
87	40	Johnnies	£74	-1	345	4.7	..
18⅞	8⅛	Kinross	£10⅛	..	89.0	8.4	..
8⅛	3⅛	Kloof	£5⅝	..	40.0	7.4	..
276	87	Leslie	145	-5	29.0	20.0	..
20⅞	7½	Libanon	£12½	..	115	9.2	..
423	193	Lorana	333	-7			
196	110	MIM	121	-3			
58	21	Malaysian Mining	24	+1			
175	70	Marievale	110	..	17.0	15.5	..
38	14½	Metals Exploration	14½	-1½			
17	7	Minorgura	14				
5⅜	2½	New Wits	£4⅝	-⅛	23.0	5.3	..
165	99	Nth Broken Hill	124				
54½	28½	Nth Kalgurli	43	●-1½			
375	195	Northgate	220				
280	108	Petaling Tin	113				
318	205	Peko Wallsend	251	-4			
25¼	9⅞	Pres Brand	£13	..	180	12.3	..
27⅛	10	Pres Steyn	£14	..	207	14.8	..
33¼	14	Rand Mines Ltd	£19	-1			
800	275	Rand Mines Prop	430	-10	12.0	2.8	11.7
95	18	Randfontein	£82	-1	351	8.9	..
308	231	Renison	256	+1			
687	507	RTZ	582	+18	29.3	5.0	8.2
8⅛	4⅛	Rustenburg	£6⅞	..	26.0	3.8	51.8
26⅛	6⅞	St Helena	£9⅝	-⅛	125	13.1	..
279	76	SA Land	148	-5	18.0	12.2	..
280	123	Sungei Besi	123	..	..	n	..
275	100	Tanjong	100	..	..	..	8.6
14⅛	8	Tara	£9⅛				
310	108	Tronoh	108				
895	335	Unisel	494	-5	46.0	9.3	..
87	32½	Vaal Reefs	£54	-⅛	556	10.3	..
844	315	Venterspost	488	+5	54.0	11.1	..
170	55	Vlakfontein	100	..	15.0	15.0	..
115	50	Vogels	85	●..	4.3	5.1	11.1
15	10½	Wankie Colliery	10½				
737	340	Welkom	470	..	67.0	14.3	..
430	143	Western Areas	235	-8	23.0	9.8	..
39	18⅛	Western Deep	£27⅝	..	171	6.2	..
36	13⅝	Western Holdings	£17⅝	..	259	14.7	..
248	142	Western Mining	170	-1	3.0	1.8	..
470	140	West Rand Cons	233	+5	12.0	5.1	..
107	30	Wit Nigel	44	-3	1.1	2.5	..
19	10	Zambia Copper	14½	-½			
86	32	Zandpan	51	-3	3.7	7.3	..

MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
164	111	AE	164	●+2	7.1	4.3	11.4
91	39	Appleyard	90	..	4.3	4.8	7.9
95½	32	Armstrong	95	..	1.6	1.7	12.6
205	55	Auto Products	190	..	2.1n	1.1	19.5
31½	22	BSG	30	-½	1.5	5.0	13.0
		Blumel Bros				f	
228	128	Bramall (CD)	228	..	9.9	4.3	11.9
508	293	Br Aerospace	498	-3	20.3	4.1	9.3
128	79	Br Car Auctions	122	-1	4.6	3.8	13.4
71	26	BL	61	-2			
176	120	Caffyns	170	..	6.4	3.8	..
97	41	Cowie (T)	97	+1	4.3	4.4	13.5
129	88½	Davis (Godfrey)	124	-3	5.7	4.6	14.9
227	164	Dowty	190	..	7.3	3.8	14.6
48	32	ERF	38	+1	..	..	8.7
82	38	Gates (Frank G)	80	..	4.3	5.4	9.7
378	225	General Motor	272	●-5	25.0	9.2	..
63	43	Glanfield Lawrence	60	..	..	..	12.6
129	69	Group Lotus	128	..	..	..	48.0
91	49	Hartwells	88	-1	3.8	4.3	11.7
549	354	Honda Motor	390	-19	3.8	1.0	..
501	237	Jaguar	480	+19	11.1	2.3	15.8
86	62	Jessups	84	..	5.7	6.8	6.4
180	97	Kenning Motor	156	●-3	9.3	5.0	24.1
77	28	Kwik-Fit	73	+2	2.8	3.8	21.6
323	159	Lex	309	..	15.1	4.9	8.9
104	83	Lookers	104	..	7.0	6.7	6.8
586	233	Lucas	585	+7	15.7	2.7	11.8
124	85	Perry gp	124	..	6.3	5.1	13.9
84	68	Plaxtons (GB)	82	..	6.4	7.8	11.2
71	38	Quick (HJ)	65	..	3.7	5.7	..

NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
283	185	Assoc Book	198	..	7.5	3.8	11.4
10¼	498	Assoc Newspaper	£10½	●..	24.3	2.3	14.2
350	255	Black (A&C)	305	..	13.9	4.6	16.9
600	388	Bristol	570	+5	32.9	5.8	22.1
495	333	Collins (Wm)	480	..	9.8	2.0	24.6
338	263	Do 'A'	326	..	8.8	3.0	16.7
169	95	Emap 'A'	164	..	4.7	2.9	24.3
380	280	Haynes Publishing	348	..	20.0	5.7	18.2
171	83	Home Counties	138	+3	6.7	4.9	6.9
288	130	Independent	288	..	12.0	4.2	..
622	404	Int Thomson	407	+3	14.0	3.4	12.1
10	505	News International	900	-25	15.1	1.7	..
585	423	Octopus	540	..	8.2	1.5	30.9
147	118	Portsmouth Sund	126	..	5.7	4.5	12.6

OIL

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
129	91	Ampol	118	-2	..	..	..
52	18	Aran Energy	19	..			
76	19	Atlantic Resources	19	..			
610	470	Br Petroleum	535	-1	45.7	8.5	8.7
32	7	Bristol Oil	9	-1	..	n	..
358	295	Br Borneo	323	..	26.4	8.2	12.0
243	168	Britoil	173	+5	18.5	10.8	4.7
320	200	Burmah	305	+7	15.4	5.0	11.5
57	21	Charterhall	21	-1	0.9	4.3	3.0
209	127	Enterprise	130	+3	12.1	9.3	4.4
71	28	Gerber Energy	30	..			
365	200	Global N Res	200	..			
88	34	Goal Pet	45	..	1.4	3.0	5.5
310	45	Gt Western Res	45	●-5	4.1	9.1	..
351	271	IC Gas	311	+3	22.1	7.1	9.2
23⅛	4½	ICC Oil	200½	..			
54	50	Inoco	51				
43	19	KCA Drilling	21	..	4.3	20.5	..
379	138	LASMO	145	+7	17.4	12.0	8.8
520	250	Do Units	255	+5	144.	56.5	..
175	33	New London Oil	33	-5			
210	111	Petrocon	133	+10	7.9	5.9	7.2
50	28½	Premier	30	+3	..	..	14.2
480	190	Ranger	190	-10			
175	133	Saxolina	133	..	12.9	9.7	8.9
207	60	Sovereign	64	+4	..	..	2.3
33	19	TR Energy	19	-½	..	..	18.6
283	118	Tricentrol	125	+4	14.3	11.4	3.5
405	100	Triton Europe	160	-10	..	..	21.8
248	190	Ultramar	203	+2	15.0	7.4	4.3

OVERSEAS TRADERS

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
238	131	Anglo Indonesian	188	..	10.7	5.7	3.9
41	24	Borthwick	37	●-2	0.7	1.9	10.3
182	83	Finlay (James)	97	+5	5.9	6.1	4.6
476	325	Harrison Crosfield	353	..	28.8	8.1	10.7
458	290	Inchcape	353	-2	23.9	7.3	16.0
33	25	Jacks (Wm)	31	..	1.4	4.5	9.7
263	147	Lonrho	263	+11	17.1	6.5	10.3
57½	44	Ocean Wilson	56	-1	4.2	7.5	7.1
240	126	Paterson Zoch	233	..	8.4	3.6	7.6
240	128	Do 'A'	233	..	8.4	3.6	7.6
286	131	Polly Peck	155	-3	7.5	4.8	2.0
107	25	Tozer Kemsley	107	+4	..	..	35.1
261	168	Yule Catto	160	..	8.9	5.4	7.2

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
110	43	Adcom Int	56	+1	1.2	2.1	20.5
236	173	Assoc Paper	236	+2	8.6	3.9	14.3
56	35	Ault & Wiborg	38	..	..	n	9.2
178	128	Bemrose	143	-2	1.8	1.3	6.2
412½	224	Boase Massimi	286	-2	5.4	1.9	28.9
229	159	BPCC	217	-1	17.1r	7.9	8.2

PROPERTY

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
172	130	Brunning	148	..	7.0	4.7	37.1
162	103	Do R/V	147	..	7.0	4.8	38.8
535	408	Bunzl	528	-2	14.3	2.7	17.1
825	461	Carlton Comm	820	●..	8.6	1.0	26.9
291	178	Chapman	178	..	12.0	6.7	8.2
208	113	Cropper (James)	197	+3	3.6	1.9	10.8
580	370	Eucalyptus Pulp	370	..	10.0	2.7	2.7
226	128	Ferguson Ind	224	..	10.6	4.7	15.5
465	350	Fitch Design	395	+10	8.0	2.0	29.6
176	53	Geers Gross	72	-1	4.3	6.0	7.2
263	110	Good Relations	120	-3	7.7	5.9	13.1
272	183	Hunterprint	198	..	6.7	3.4	7.3
349	219	Lowe H-S C-E	348	..	8.6	2.5	23.0
181½	133	McCorquodale	168	..	8.1	4.9	18.5
105	85	More O'Ferrall	103	..	4.9	4.8	18.2
155	100	Norton Opax	149	..	4.3	2.9	18.4
39⅛	27½	Ogilvy & Mather	£33⅛	-¼			
45	27	Olives Paper	33	..	..	..	31.1
693	455	St Ives Gp	680	..	12.9	2.0	27.1
843	615	Saatchi & Saatchi	843	+8	20.0	2.4	18.7
135½	108	Do 8.2% Cnv Prf	135½	+1	9.0	6.6	..
146	72½	Smurfit (Jeff)	141	..	4.7	3.3	..
630	455	Waddington (J)	605	..	35.7	5.9	11.9
286	223	Walmough	283	+5	8.9r	3.1	13.5
34	11	Abaco	32	..	0.2	0.6	50.0
80	66	Allied Lon	74	..	2.0	2.7	17.5
123	70	Apex	73	●..	2.8	3.8	15.7
176	70	Bairstow Eves	173	..	2.7n	1.6	28.2
514	381	Beazer (CH)	514	+2	17.1	3.3	12.4
156	80	Belgrave	121	..	6.0	5.0	8.3
242	212	Bellon (P)	242	+2	15.1	6.2	15.4
470	380	Bradford	460	+6	13.9	3.0	19.4
173	131	Br Land	168	-1	3.9	2.3	17.1
155	122	Brixton	152	..	7.6	5.0	23.3
45	28	Caird (A) &Sons	42	+2			
228	195	Cap & Counties	220	..	8.6	3.9	25.0
225	145	Cardiff Prop	205	●..	2.6	1.3	..
240	173	Centrovincial	178	..	8.6	4.8	15.8
480	400	Chesterfield	465	..	15.7	3.4	25.3
863	503½	CALA	780	..	25.7r	3.3	11.5
43	17	Control Secs	17	..	4.5	26.5	3.2
116	97	Country & New	109	..	2.3	2.1	71.7
142	88	County 'B'	142	..	5.0	3.5	4.8
235	175	Cussins	180	..	8.6	4.8	20.1
575	303	Daejan	575	●..	18.6	3.2	12.1
250	206	Deon Dev	215	..			
21	6	Dares	8	+½	..	..	3.0
188	145	Estates & Agency	165	..	4.3	2.6	74.0
121	88	Estates Gen	113	..	3.4	3.0	32.7
159	140	Estates Prop	147	●..	12.1	8.2	12.8
92	69	Evans Of Leeds	87	..	5.0	5.7	10.8
88	28	Five Oaks	66	-1	..	..	9.2
195	150	Frogmore	185	-3	9.9	5.4	11.6
180	140	Gr Portland	180	+2	10.0	5.6	26.5
248	184	Greycoat	242	..	2.8	1.2	47.7
187	78	Hallwood Gp	103	-3			
173	93	Hanover	160	-3	4.6	2.9	27.4
260	198	Hardanger	245	..	14.0	5.7	9.3
623	444	Haslemere	618	-2	14.0	2.3	39.8
325	255	Imry	285	..	7.7	2.7	33.3
180	85	Jermyn	155	..	2.3	1.5	88.8
315	282	Laing Prop	305	..	8.8	3.1	18.4
64	35½	Land Investors	60	-½	1.7	2.8	34.1
325	255	Land Securities	319	-1	12.1	3.8	27.5
585	188	Lon & Edin Tst	585	+10	9.6	1.6	26.9
195	102½	Do 8½%	195	+2	9.3	4.8	..
328	218	Lon & Prov Shop	240	..	9.6	2.9	21.2
171	119	Lon Shop Prop	165	..	7.8r	4.8	19.9
255	222	Lynton	253	..	8.6	2.9	36.8
342	255	MEPC	339	+1	15.0	4.4	21.7
101	56	McInerney	100				
130	105	McKay Secs	105	●..	4.9r	4.7	18.2
70	50	Marlborough	65	..	0.8r	1.2	33.3
198	120	Marler Est	198	..	4.3n	2.2	19.8
845	239	Mountleigh	845	+10	10.7	1.7	20.3
445	288	Mountview	435	●..	6.4	1.5	9.0
97	50	Muckow (A&J)	96	+4	7.2	7.5	14.7
24	12	Municipal	£18½	-½	15.7	0.8	48.9
82	70½	New Cavendish	75	..	1.7	2.3	33.0
51	28	Parkdale	45	●..	2.1r	4.7	22.7
280	230	Peachey	278	..	12.1	4.4	36.7
202	178	Prop & Rev	188	..	6.2	3.3	31.5
132	107	Prop Hldgs	123	..	3.8	3.1	30.2
132	98	Prop Security	118	●..	3.6r	3.1	25.8
10	7	Raglan	9	..	0.1	1.1	..
445	85	Regalian	375	..	5.2	1.4	28.5
485	180	Rosehaugh	485	..	1.1	0.2	..
297	210	Rush & Tompkins	280	-5	11.2	4.0	12.3
188	125	Slough Estates	168	+2	7.4	4.5	18.9
322	175	Speyhawk	300	●..	13.6	4.5	15.7
164	144	Stand Secs	160	●..	5.8	3.6	18.1
570	405	Stock Conversion	570	+5	12.1	2.1	26.5
80	54	Stockley	75	+1			
50	38	Town Centre	47	-1	1.4	3.0	28.0
240	186	Trafford Park	208	..	16.4	7.9	13.8
605	480	Utd Real	565	-5	2.0	0.4	23.1
745	525	Warner	740	●+10	25.7	3.5	42.7
510	410	Warnford	485	..	21.4	4.4	46.5
25½	17	Webb (Jos)	22	●..	0.7	3.2	71.0
183	140	West & Country	155	..	11.4	7.4	8.8

SHIPPING

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
446	181	Assoc Br Ports	444	..	12.5	2.8	..
355	225	Br Commonwealth	330	..	6.3	1.9	25.5
328	208	Caledonia	316	+1	6.1	1.9	70.2
121	70	Fisher (James)	75	..	4.7	6.3	6.9
650	520	Graig	578	..	17.9	3.1	27.7
65	52	Jacobs (JI)	63	-½	5.0r	7.9	29.6
22	8½	Lyle	10½	-½	..	n	0.1
42	17	Mersey Docks	35	-1	..	..	1.4
201	125	Ocean Transport	188	+1	8.4	4.5	13.8
480	338	P & O Dfd	478	-2	20.0	4.2	14.6

SHOES AND LEATHER

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
325	198	FII	325	..	8.9	2.7	12.7
238	163	Garnar Booth	180	-4	13.1	7.3	5.4
43	31	Headlam Sims	35	..	3.1n	8.9	8.0
223	133	Lambert Howarth	178	..	7.2	4.0	9.3
98	60	Newbold & Burton	76	..	4.4	5.8	..
94	48½	Pittard	84	..	5.8	6.9	6.1
152	118	Strong & Fisher	122	..	10.7	8.8	4.9
208	143	Stylo	176	..	6.4	3.7	21.6

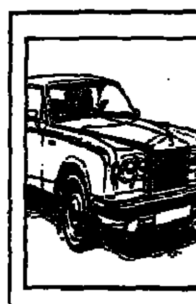
TEXTILES

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
112	71	Beale (John)	108	●+1	5.9n	5.4	4.7
102	84	Beckman (A)	90	..	8.2	9.1	10.6
153	107½	Br Mohair	126	-1	8.6	6.8	8.8
85	60	Bulmer & Lumb	66	-1	7.1	10.8	16.5
250	128	Coats Patons	246	-2	8.2n	3.3	11.5
73½	52½	Corah	56½	-½	5.7	10.1	7.8
230	121	Courtaulds	224	-1	7.6	3.4	9.5
111	37	Crowther (J)	105	-1	2.1r	2.0	28.2
228	151	Dawson	216	+6	8.8r	4.1	13.8
75½	30	Debron	48	..	..	..	23.9
305	118	Dixon (D)	273	-17	9.3	3.4	8.2
154	70	Don Bros	154	..	4.3	2.8	7.6
188	30	Dura Mill	30	..	5.7	19.0	4.1
84	47	Foster (John)	78	+1	5.0	6.4	7.0
106	84	Gaskell Broadloom	98	..	7.9	8.1	6.7
75	50	Jerome (S)	67	..	4.5	6.7	8.8
165	101	Leeds	148	+5	7.4	5.0	9.6
74	45½	Lister	68½	-1½	0.4	0.6	21.4
85	67	Lyles (S)	82	..	7.9	9.6	17.1
94	67	Mackay (Hugh)	78	-1	6.6	8.5	15.7
29½	7	Munton	14½	..	..	..	4.9
126	88	Parkland 'A'	117	-1	6.9	5.9	5.6
39	24½	Readicut	37½	+½	2.3	6.1	9.7
174	130	SEET	134	●+2	7.3r	5.4	5.4
45	26	Shaw Carpets	28½	-½	3.6e	12.6	15.8
161	108	Sirdar	158	..	5.9	3.7	12.7
57	33	Smallshaw (R)	52	-4	3.6	6.9	8.0
77	37½	Stroud Riley	67	●-1	3.6	5.4	11.8
143	65	Textured Jersey	134	●..	7.9	5.9	9.6
125	55	Tomkinsons	125	..	4.3	3.4	9.9
91	55	Tootal	91	+3	5.7r	6.3	9.8

TOBACCOS

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
385	255	BAT	353	-5	15.7	4.4	7.4
323	182	Imperial	309	+1	17.1r	5.5	11.4
205	111	Rothmans 'B'	159	-3	9.1	5.7	5.5

● ex dividend a Ex all b Forecast dividend c Corrected price e Interim payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment h Bid for company k Pre-merger figures n Forecast earnings p Ex-capital distribution r Ex rights s Ex scrip or share split t Tax-free y Price adjusted for late dealings. . . No significant data.



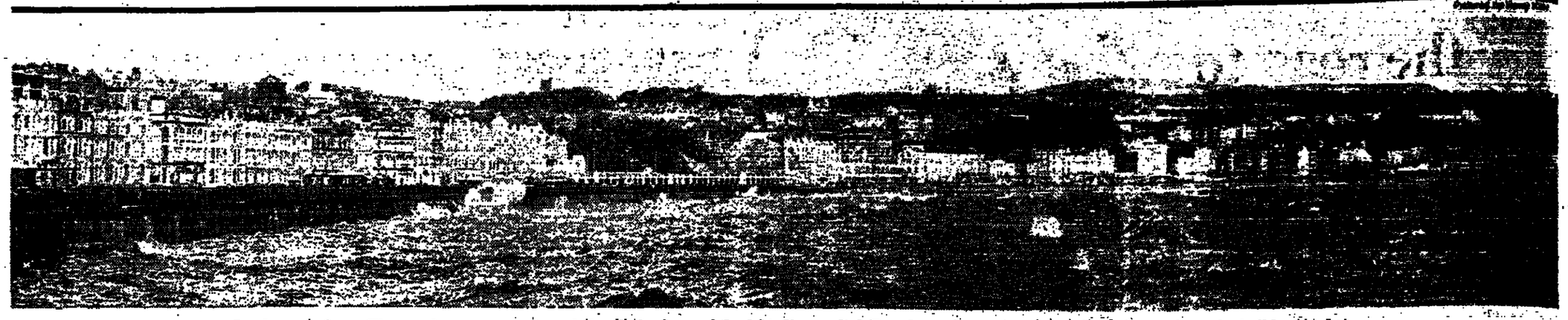
THE RIGHT PLACE TO PARK YOUR CAR

THE TIMES

THE TIMES
FOCUS
February 21, 1986

A SPECIAL REPORT ON
THE ISLE OF MAN/1

By Alan Hamilton



On the waterfront: The sea-front promenade and the old harbour of the island's capital, Douglas, now making an unashamed assault on the holiday market

The optimistic islanders

There is a small factory in the Isle of Man making bedroom slippers for Marks & Spencer. In common with most of that retail chain's goods, they are labelled "Made in UK", a serious and fundamental error calculated to hurt the Manxman's pride to the very quick.

Although only 16 miles from the nearest point of the Scottish coast and 30 miles west of Cumbria, the island is not and never has been part of the United Kingdom. Its tiny independent parliament of Tynwald claims to be the oldest legislative assembly in the world, founded by raiding Vikings in 979AD; it owes no allegiance to Westminster, only to the British Crown.

Yet its fortunes are immutably tied up with those of Britain and it suffers many of the same ills that beset the mainland, the chief among them being a decade of economic depression and an unemployment rate now approaching 10 per cent.

Recently there have been painful cuts in some social services, such as education and libraries, while others have spiralled in price. Recent reports suggest that the island's reserves are down to the equivalent of two weeks' normal government spending.

Local residents complain of a high cost of living, endemic to islands that have to pay high transport costs. And there are anomalies; housewives complain that a pound of locally produced beef is cheaper in Liverpool than Douglas.

The return air fare to London costs £124 (although there is now a £20 off-peak single fare to Liverpool) and it costs £84 for a car and driver to be ferried to the mainland.

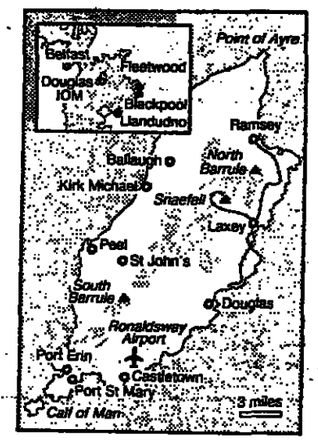
The theoretical advantage of independence is that Man can tackle those ills with measures entirely tailored to local requirements, although in truth its record of doing so in the past has often been less than glittering, progress being held back at least in part by a form of government so stable that it approached ossification.

Now, after a millennium and a bit, things are beginning to stir on the island that has been unkindly described in the past as 65,000 geriatric alcholics clinging to a rock in the Irish Sea. The Manxmen are well enough aware that the first condition for political independence is economic independence.

To bolster a flagging economy, and in the hope of reducing the unit costs of its social services, the island has since last year been pursuing an active but selective "New Resident" policy. (The government studiously avoids the word "immigrant".) The current drive for incomers, or "comeovers", is the result of a similar policy pursued in the 1960s and 1970s after the island population had fallen to 48,500; the children of those incomers are now coming on to the labour market, and jobs are scarce.

Man believes that its existing infrastructure will support comfortably an increase of 10,000 on its current population of 65,000.

Social services and education, despite cuts, remain well up to mainland standards, and are in many cases better. Five comprehensive schools with small classes are supplemented by the highly-regarded King William's boarding school for boys and the Buchan for girls.



Never in the past very good at selling itself, Man has woken up to modern marketing techniques and its representatives now occasionally venture abroad to sell its virtues to foreign business communities.

They stress the space and point disparagingly to the overcrowded acres of the Channel Islands, where the population density is six or seven times greater. And they stress the stability of an island with a tranquil life style and a low crime rate, although the miscreants are no longer required to present their posteriors for receipt of the birch.

But despite tranquillity, and scenery that could easily be mistaken for parts of the Scottish Highlands or rural Wales, it is its position as a tax haven that is the island's biggest draw: a flat rate income tax of 20 per cent, and few other taxes of any kind, either corporate or personal, which serves only to underline the voracity of the British Inland Revenue.

In the past the Isle of Man has sometimes found itself regarded as a bit of a joke among connoisseurs of tax havens. It may have been because, until as late at 1979, it still had on its statute book a Usury Act which restricted interest on all borrowed money to a maximum of 12.5 per cent.

It is largely to enhance its attractiveness as a tax haven, or "offshore financial centre" as they would rather have it, that the Isle of Man is now contemplating major political reforms.

There is growing pressure to abrogate the common customs agreement with the UK, which would turn Man into a duty-free area and, more important, allow it to levy its own rates of VAT to suit the local economy.

Although it is too early to judge the success or otherwise of the new resident policy, there is a feeling of optimism which its leaders say has not been present for many years.

Finance, the island's largest industry, has regained respectability after a major bank crash in 1982 and is showing healthy signs of growth, shepherded by tough new banking rules which, it is claimed, would make a Johnson Matthey-style collapse almost impossible on the island.

Manufacturing, the second largest sector of the Manx economy, is also showing a modest upturn.

Even the island's drawbacks – the lack of sophistication, night life and top-class hotels – are turned by the travelling Manx salesmen into advantages. They underline, they say, the enormous scope for growth and that the place is indeed unspoilt, stable and secure.

What they do not mention much is the island's biggest single current talking point: the ferry. Ferries are an endemic topic of complaint in most island communities.

The islanders have not forgiven the Isle of Man Steam Packet Company for merging with Seaflink and moving the route from its age-old home of Liverpool to the desolate waste of Heysham further up the Lancashire coast. The Steam Packet has now said it will call at Liverpool again at least twice a week from this summer.

In a fit of anger and with more than half an eye to a fast buck, a Manx-registered company has taken an option on a highspeed aluminium-hulled vessel now being built in Western Australia, and is threatening to skim the angry waves of the Irish Sea to Liverpool in two hours – about half the present ferry time – if the Steam Packet does not mend its ways.

The Isle of Man seems, for the first time in many years, to be living up to its familiar three-legged coat of arms and its motto *Quocunque Jeceris Stabit*, which might be liberally rendered as "Whichever way you throw me, I shall always have a leg to stand on."

A change of style in politics



Dr E.J. Manx: Changes

Dr Edgar Mann, a retired English general-practitioner, chairman of the Manx Government's executive council and, therefore, effectively the island's prime minister, hopes that by the end of the year he will find himself closer to the British definition of that office.

Tynwald, the ancient parliament that celebrated its millennium in 1979, owes little to the Westminster model and likes to flaunt its superior antiquity by describing itself as the Grandmother of Parliaments. What it has not had in the past, but is about to have soon, is a form of Cabinet government.

Proposed reforms now before Tynwald could herald a significant change of style in the world's oldest legislative assembly. It may even be the start of a challenge to the basic and long-held assumption that there are no party politics in Tynwald and no formal opposition – each of the 24 members of the lower House of Keys sitting as an independent.

The day-to-day functioning of government, the Civil Service, is carried out by 25 semi-autonomous boards covering such areas as education, industry, harbours and tourism. They are the nearest equivalent to British government ministries.

The difference is that several members of parliament sit on each board and each member is likely to find himself on several boards at a time. The current thinking is that such a system spreads the responsibility and accountability of the individual members too thinly and makes for a cumbersome inefficiency.

The planned reforms, likely to be passed for the island's next general election in November, will change all that. The 25 boards, each a corporate body in its own right now, will be rendered down to eight or nine government departments, each with its own single minister in charge.

More significant still will be the future composition of the executive council which consists of the chairmen of the principal boards. They are elected to their posts by

Continued on page 3

Do you value your independence as much as we do ours?

Having been independent for over 1,000 years, we've developed a unique sense of freedom that underlies all aspects of our way of life. Though geographically part of the British Isles, we have our own parliament and make our own laws.

We offer a comprehensive range of incentives to attract like-minded individuals and companies to join our thriving financial and business community.

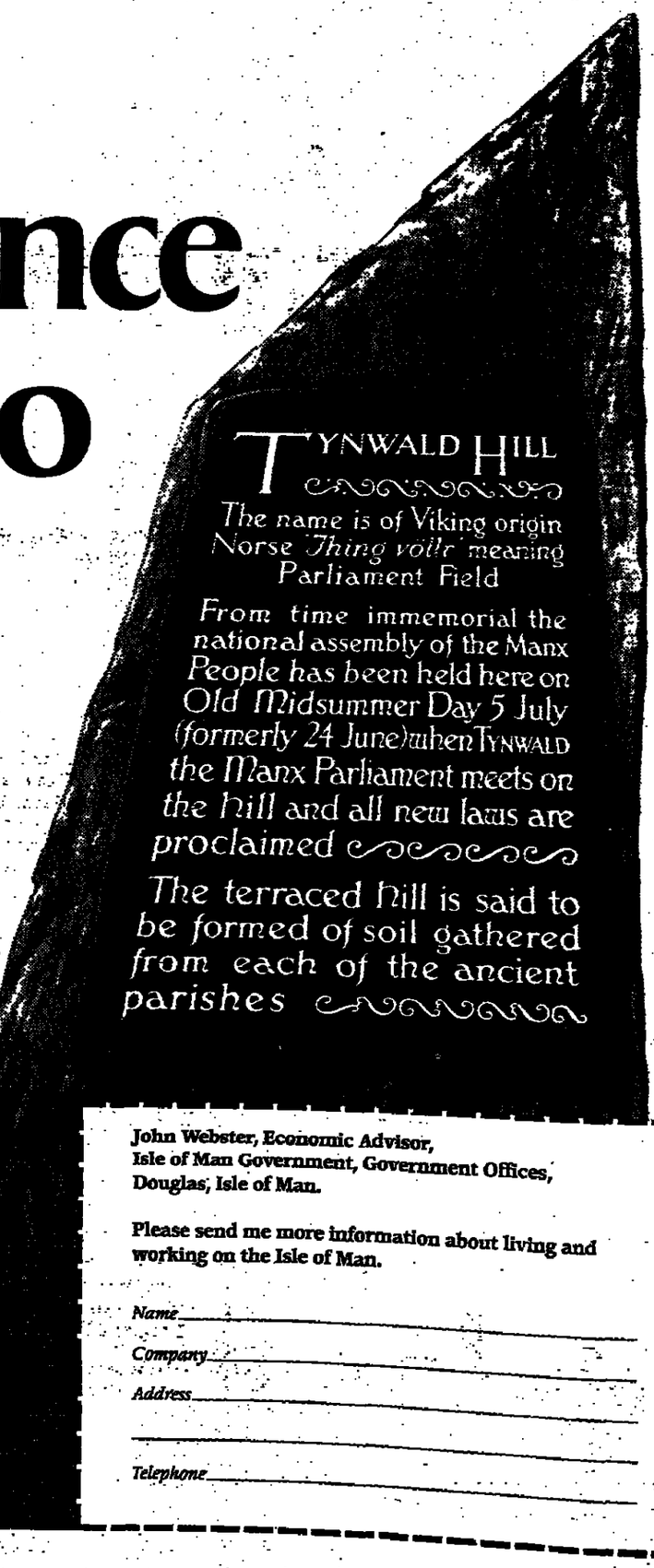
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Isle of Man

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John Webster, Economic Advisor,
Isle of Man Government, Government Offices,
Douglas, Isle of Man.

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Strolling down the road to independence

There is ever-growing talk of the Isle of Man declaring UDI. Indeed, it is so widely regarded as inevitable that the only remaining question is when, and it is likely to be well aired at the island's next general election in November.

Man needs only give six months' notice that it wishes to sever its remaining fiscal ties with the UK.

Under the common customs agreement Man is within the UK customs area; what jars with the Manxmen is that that obliges them to levy VAT at exactly the same rate, and on the same goods and services as the mainland. Half of the island's annual tax revenue — about £42 million — is effectively raised at the whim of the British Chancellor, and its local needs are inevitably close to the bottom of the Chancellor's list of priorities.

Government lacks political maturity to handle freedom

Given fiscal independence, Man would still have to raise much the same total tax revenue, but it would have the liberty to adjust the balance of the burden to take account of local needs. One area likely to be given high priority for relief would be the booming financial services sector which pays a standard 15 per cent VAT on transactions.

The tourist industry has long been in favour of breaking the fiscal bond with Britain in the belief that the lure of duty-free drink and tobacco would help arrest the steep decline in traditional holiday business.

Principal opponents have been the island's industrialists — chiefly in electronics and light engineering — who fear that the customs service which would have to be set up would add an unwelcome layer of bureaucracy, delay and expense, to the detriment of potential British and foreign orders. These objections, however, are now being made with rather less force than before.

Dr Edgar Mann, chairman of the Manx government's executive council, believes the break to be inevitable sooner or later. "It is gradually becoming accepted that, if we are to move forward in political maturity, we should have control of our own indirect taxation".

But he is not without reservations. "I am not sure that the present government here yet has the political maturity to cope with such freedom. So we have to ensure that our own budgetary methods can cope with the pressures that would be put on individual members of the government".

Reforms before Tynwald to introduce a more Cabinet-style government and make ministers more accountable for their areas of responsibility are seen as part of that progress to maturity. A fiscal break would leave Westminster responsible only for Man's defence and external affairs.

Unlike the Channel Islands, Man willingly pays the UK government for those external services at the rate of £1 million a year.

Fiscal independence would not, in the short term at least, alter the island's relations with the European Community which, like the Channel Islands, are governed by a Protocol 3 agreement. Man is within the Community's external tariff area and thus enjoys free access to markets — but it neither pays into Brussels, nor does it receive.

In the longer term, if the Community's programme of harmonization ever proceeds to full implementation, there might well be pressure on the Protocol 3 territories, despite present assurances, to become full members of the club or to be excluded altogether. Such a move would spell the end of Man's total fiscal independence, but the island remains confident that this still is a long way off.



Style and security: The glass-domed interior of the Isle of Man Bank's head office in Atholl Street, Douglas

Out of the monetary muddle

When the Isle of Man's Savings and Investment Bank failed in 1982, owing its depositors £42.2 million, it looked as if the island's reputation as an offshore financial centre had suffered a wounding blow, with permanently damaging consequences for what has become Man's biggest industry.

The mess left by the collapse of the Savings and Investment Bank (not to be confused with the Isle of Man Bank, the island's oldest and now part of Nat West) has yet to be satisfactorily cleared up. Creditors are still battling for an acceptable settlement from the liquidators, and four years after the event there is still no sign of the Manx government's report into the crash.

Local politicians disclaim responsibility, and say that publication — or suppression — is entirely in the hands of the Deemster, the head of the island's judiciary. It is difficult to escape the conclusion that the report is simply too damning an indictment of Man's formerly lax banking supervision for it ever to see the light of day.

But the SIB crash had its beneficial effects. It stirred the island authorities into closer supervision of the financial sector, chiefly through the appointment of a former Bank of England official, Jim Noakes, as banking inspector, to ensure rigid application of the 1975 Banking Act, together with a colleague of similar standing, Duncan Neil, to regulate the insurance industry.

Since Mr Noakes' arrival in 1983, several bottom-drawer institutions have been frightened off. There has also been a virtual moratorium on new banks coming to the island; Mr Noakes is determined to only let in institutions of the highest standing. A new arrival is Scotland's Clydesdale; and Mr Noakes would like to see one or two of the most prestigious American banks, to help reduce the island's overwhelming dependence on sterling deposits.

There are 43 licensed banks on the Isle of Man, and seven licensed deposit takers. Legislation before Tynwald will tighten the banking laws even further but will also, for the first time, allow in some of the leading UK building societies as deposit takers.

The SIB crash did not, in the event, ruin the Manx offshore finance industry, although the growth in deposits has been slightly slower than in the years immediately before 1982. At the end of September 1985 deposits in Isle of Man banks totalled £2,416 million, an increase of 23 per cent on the previous year. Of the total, £365 million, a fairly small proportion, was in non-sterling deposits.

Crash put Man on the map as an offshore centre

Despite the increase, Man lags far behind the Channel Islands: deposits in Jersey total about £19 billion, and in Guernsey £5 billion. A far greater proportion of CI deposits is in non-sterling currencies, and they are heavily involved in the Eurocurrency business which Man barely touches.

Mr Noakes believes there are a number of reasons why Man weathered the SIB storm. First, the story put the island on the map and brought its name to the fore as an offshore centre. Second, the authorities acted quickly and decisively to put their house in order. Finally, the island's political stability and closeness to the UK is a powerful draw for money seeking a safe haven.

The growth in Manx bank deposits partly arises from the fact that money left in the bank will grow anyway, from a transfer of funds from UK banks because of composite rate tax, and from a marketing effort by the Manx banking community, including sales missions to Wall Street.

There is some uncertainty about what the impending Big Bang in the City of London will do to the offshore money markets, but there is a general confidence that it will bring benefit rather than harm.

"The Big Bang will increase the amount of paper assets available," Mr Noakes says. "The range of financial products will increase, and more individuals will get into investment. That can only be good for the Isle of Man, which has also specialized in personal rather than corporate finance.

"A major financial capital like London needs an offshore centre," Mr Noakes said. "There are plenty of people with perfectly legitimate reasons for doing their business offshore.

"A non-British national may want to deal with London without rendering himself liable to British taxation. Far from taking money away from the UK, offshore centres put a great deal of reinvestment business into London that it would not otherwise get."

The Manx banking community is confident that it will continue to grow, especially if it can reduce its dependence on sterling deposits and attract more international business. The occasional American voice is already to be heard in the bars of Douglas complaining about the hotel accomodation.

The financial infrastructure is well established, with most of the leading investment and accountancy houses present on the island. The latest arrival is Arthur Andersen, the world's largest firm of chartered accountants.

But Mr Noakes, of all people, is well aware that the waters of offshore finance can be particularly shark-infested to the unwary. "Deal with the established names; don't go looking through the back pages of Exchange and Mart for the fly boys" is his heartfelt advice.

Shipping flies the flag

Since last year the Isle of Man has been bidding in the world shipping market for flag-of-convenience business against the established competition of Liberia, Panama and Hong Kong.

After lengthy negotiations with the Department of Trade, it was allowed to establish its own shipping register, but only under stringent conditions. Ships must essentially be British-owned, all senior officers must hold British or Commonwealth mariners' papers, and survey and registration requirements must be up to British standards.

When the Manx register was first proposed the National Union of Seamen voiced fears of low standards and dangerous conditions for crews.

There are now 41 merchant ships with a total gross registered tonnage of 144,233 tonnes registered in Man.

For the shipowner, Manx registration confers tax advantages on his company and greater respectability than similar operations.

There is also a substantial Manx-based ship management business, looking after the running of vessels of all flags, again for reasons of tax advantage. The Douglas office at Wallems — a Hong Kong-based management company — and Denholm are the major concerns competing for this business on Man.

A bid for big risks

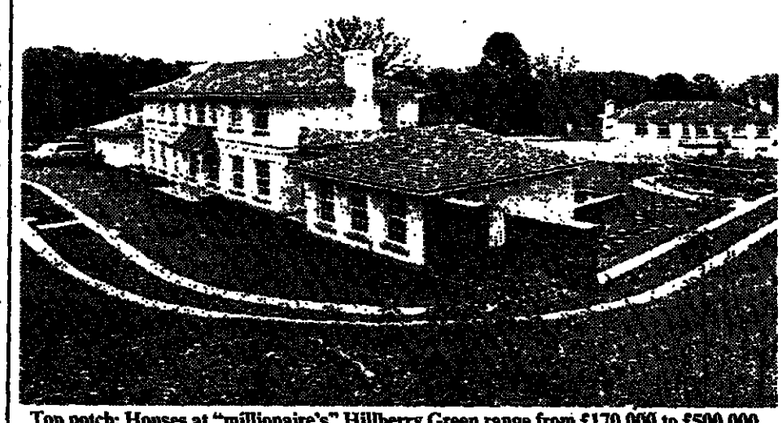
An Isle of Man insurance exchange handling the mega-risk business, which recently proved the undoing of some Lloyd's syndicates, is the goal of Duncan Neil, the Manx government's insurance inspector. He was appointed in 1983 to keep the more dubious operators out of the island's now-flourishing offshore insurance industry.

The recent Shuttle disaster has concentrated the minds of the mega-risk market; up to one-third of a space shot launch cost can be in insurance premiums. The London market, with its traditional one-year cycle of profit — or loss — taking, is not best equipped to deal with it, Mr Neil believes. He sees scope for a Manx equivalent of Lloyd's taking the longshot risks on a five or even ten-year profit taking cycle, to enable a healthier build-up of reserves.

Meanwhile, last year saw considerable growth in the more traditional offshore insurance market on the Isle of Man, with 39 licensed insurance companies, including 26 highly specialized "captives" and eight life offices, now operating on the island.

Man passed a tax exemption law to encourage the business in 1981, but only since insurance rates worldwide have hardened in the last year have companies flocked to take advantage of it.

New law before Tynwald will tighten up and formalize the conditions Mr Neil imposes on all new applicants.



Top notch: Houses at "millionaire's" Hillberry Green range from £170,000 to £500,000

A wealth of property on the books

Ten years ago Manx estate agents put local house prices on a par with the affluent south-east of England. Now the comparison is with the North-west, an indication of the stagnation of the island's economy in general and the property market in particular.

While average mainland house prices rose by 8 per cent last year, Manx prices showed only a 1 per cent rise. In recent months there have been more hopeful signs of activity, especially at the top end of the market. But the island's agents have a wealth of property in all sectors on their books.

The all-time record for a private house sale is £305,000, paid last year for an elegant five-bedroom Georgian-style residence in 20 acres of magnificent garden, five miles from Douglas. That may soon be exceeded by a luxurious modern property expected to come on the market at £800,000. But that includes 100 acres of farmland which a buyer might be able to sell to recoup some of his outlay.

There has been little new building in recent years. A rare executive housing development now being built is at Howstrake Heights, on an elevated site above Douglas Bay, where a maximum of 75 detached houses of high specification will sell for between £93,000 and £106,000 — expensive by Manx standards.

To take more prosaic examples, all from the books of local agents Chrystals Stott Kerruish: £25,000 will buy a modernized four-bedroom terraced house in Douglas, or a two-bedroom bungalow; £30,000 will buy a three-bedroom semi; £50,000 a five-bedroom chalet bungalow on the outskirts of town; £75,000 a converted school with four bedrooms in a scenic location at Laxey; and £110,000 a five-bedroom period country house in four acres on the edge of Ramsey.

Bungalows are in plentiful supply — an added advantage is the absence of stamp duty. Mortgages up to £19,500 are available at 11 per cent from the Government to first-time buyers.

UK building societies do not operate on the island but mortgages are available from local banks at UK rates.

A change in the political style

Continued from page 22

Tynwald as a whole and the council chairman has, therefore, virtually no say in its composition.

Under the new system the chairman will be able to choose who will head the government departments.

"This new system is intended to achieve some forward-looking policy for which you need a certain amount of cohesion," Dr Mann said. "At present, there being no parties, every member makes his decisions on a personal basis. There has been a tendency simply to shelve important decisions."

But Tynwald is a tiny parliament, with only 24 members of the House of Keys and eight members of the upper house. It therefore follows that once a Cabinet is appointed its members will comprise nearly one third of the entire assembly. And therein may lie the seeds of the island's first opposition.

"I have always felt that the more executive power you give to a group, the more counterbalanced power you must give to an opposition. As we have at present no opposition as such, I can only assume that some kind of loosely-formed opposition is likely to emerge out of those not selected for the Cabinet," Dr Mann said.

"This is a very significant change. Under the new system those appointed will each do one job and they will carry full responsibility for it. A minister will come under great pressure from his own sector or industry and from the public at large if he is not performing well."

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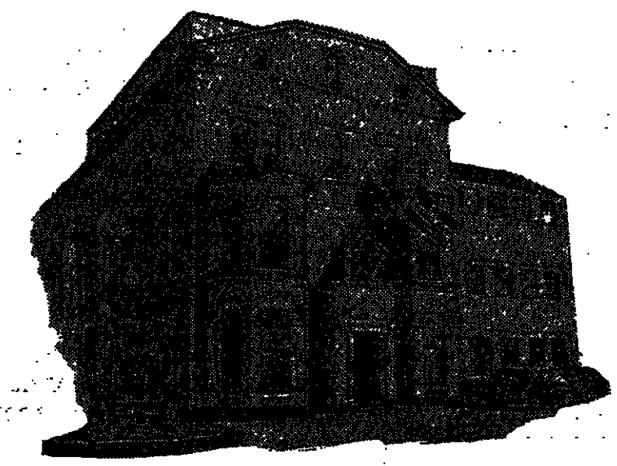
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Taking a firm line on the telephone

When, late last year, British Telecom submitted its bid for the licence to run the island's phone system, it promised to turn the Isle of Man into a world showpiece of telecommunications. Now that its tender has been successful it is up to the islanders to ensure the promise is kept.

They have a sporting chance of success, as under the new contract the island will have considerable autonomy.

BT and its predecessor, the British Post Office, have run the Manx telephones since 1912. But when Westminster passed the legislation for the privatization of BT, Tynwald passed parallel legislation enabling it to put the island's phone contract to tender.

60,000 outgoing calls a day

Cable and Wireless entered a rival but ultimately unsuccessful bid, despite intensive lobbying and promotion.

Now that BT has been granted a 20-year licence it intends to activate a wholly-owned subsidiary, Manx Telecom Ltd, kept in reserve for that eventuality. Manx Telecom is to operate independently of its giant British parent, the world's fifth largest telecommunications undertaking, with a Manx chairman and Manx board members.

Manx Telecom will pay an initial licence fee of £7.5m to the island government and £250,000 a year thereafter. But it hopes that the Government will take equity in the company and, in due course, offer shares to the public.

There are already 2,200 BT shareholders in the Isle of Man which, even allowing for a certain number of accommodation addresses, is more per head than in the UK.

The main advantage to the island in having its own quasi-independent telephone company is that it will be able to set its own charges to take account of local conditions. The density of phone ownership – 25,000 subscribers in a population of 65,000 – is not greatly different from the mainland, but they are heavily used. The island's 11 exchanges handle 60,000 outgoing calls a day and the Douglas banks and finance houses are heavy users of BT's range of data transmission services.

BT has committed itself to £34m worth of new investment on the island during the 20-year period of its licence. Promised improvements include the replacement of all inter-exchange cables with optical fibre; the laying of an optical fibre cable to the mainland; the digitalization of all exchange equipment by 1990 – 10 years ahead of the UK – and possibly even by 1988; new payphones throughout the island; and the building of the island's own satellite earth station.

Many of the promised improvements are already under way – 86 per cent of customers' lines are connected to electronic exchanges, compared with less than 60 per cent in the UK. One third of payphones have been replaced with up-to-date equipment.

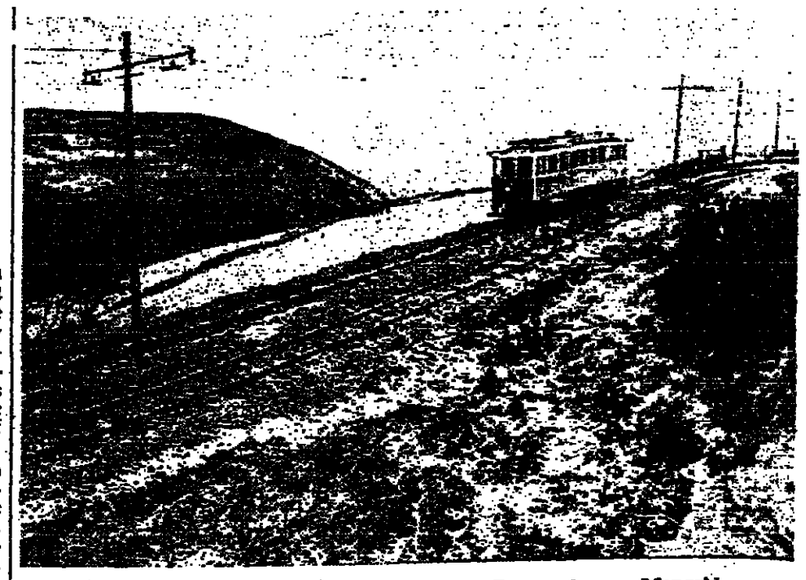
Some BT services common in the UK are not available, including cellular telephones, which could be of benefit to the island's emergency services, and cable television.

BT says it will provide them if sufficient demand is proved. It is also evaluating demand for a Network Nine centre that provides up-to-date office services and the full range of

Many promises are being fulfilled

telecommunications links, for new companies or those with only an accommodation address. For local businesses it already offers the popular video conference link-up facility.

All it needs to do now is to discover why – at least in the experience of this correspondent – so many push-button direct-dialled calls to the UK end up as wrong numbers.



Lonely splendour: A charming electric light railway train, near Mangold

Love, hate and Mr Gubay

"This island," said Mr. Albert Gubay, sticking his pugnacious chin within an inch of mine and fixing me with pale, riveting eyes, "is run by a bunch of comedians."

The comic aspect of this Lilliputian state did not, on the face of it, appear to have done Mr Gubay a great deal of personal harm. Clad in old donkey jacket and navvy's wellies caked in mud and cement, he was plunging about a building site directing a gang on the erection of a private residence of majestic and almost tasteful opulence.

Mr Gubay is not a full-time site foreman. He is a Welsh grocery millionaire who made a fortune from a chain of supermarkets; the house, in a sequestered dell near Douglas, was for himself. In what might have become its front garden under a less dynamic owner, a ponderous ballet of JCBs was sculpting his own private nine-hole golf course.

Mr Gubay and the Isle of Man government live in an agreed state of amiable ,mutual hostility. He regards them as slow, backward and indecisive; they look on him as a headstrong, impatient, loud nuisance, a kind of entrepreneurial wasp.

"There are no political parties here, so everybody has his axe to grind. It takes them forever to do anything, and when they do it's always the wrong thing. I offered to build their freeport for them; they could have had it running by now. But they chose to jump into bed with some other developer (British Land, in fact) and look where it's got them; they haven't built a thing yet."

The Government plainly does not want Mr Gubay to build its freeport, and privately resents the method of his approach, which it regards as bordering on the underhand.

"Look at them now, fretting about whether they should go duty-free. I told them they should have done it years ago; just look at the Channel Islands, how well they've done. But it's taken this lot years to make up their minds. Meanwhile they just sit back and watch their unemployment grow. Look, I offer a prize, a grant, call it what you like, of up to £50,000 every year to anyone starting a new business here. How much have I been able to give away this year?"

He turned to his accountant who had been hovering nearby in a sharp blue suit and camel-hair coat, thoroughly *outré* on a building site. "£16,000, A.G", said the accountant, who appeared to have picked up the etiquette of how to address the boss from Reggie Perrin.

"There you are," said A.G. "They don't encourage anybody to get up and go." A.G. of course has limitless reservoirs of get up and go. One almost expects his energy to flow from the waterfall being constructed of giant boulders beside his house. His current enterprises in the Isle of Man include a property company, a merchant bank, and the island's first commercial safe deposit.

But despite his fulminations against a government which steadfastly refuses to travel A.G's road of unbridled capitalism, he loves the place.

"Even if there were no tax at all in the UK now, I would never go back to live there. Here there is no mugging, no crime, and few burglaries; it's the greatest place in Europe for old folk. Schools and hospitals are not crowded; I don't know of a better place to live, and I can't understand why it isn't bursting at the seams.

A.G. stomped off in his wellies to see to a delivery of building materials and to survey progress on his golf course. It was only a par 27, but unlike any course in the Channel Islands, and many a course in the Home Counties, there was no hole from which you could drive a ball into anyone else's garden. The Isle of Man is still big enough and empty enough to contain even the likes of A.G.

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FOCUS

THE ISLE OF MAN/4



Taking the high road: One man and his dog strolling along the Ramsey to Douglas road, part of the famous TT races course



Finishing touch: John Harper at Shebag Gallery, Ballamodha, painting porcelain figures

Upmarket approach makes tourism a money-spinner

Readers of the Sunday colour supplements will have noticed a recent spate of double-page spreads promoting the holiday delights of the Isle of Man. They are part of a determined effort by the island to shake off its proletarian image and to make an unashamed assault on the upper end of the market.

In the 1920s, when the Wakes Weeks brought tidal waves of cotton workers from the industrial stews of Lancashire, the island virtually lived off its summer tourist boom. Those days are no more.

Numbers are still falling as the many For Sale boards outside defunct Douglas boarding houses testify. In the summer of 1975 there were 564,611 passenger arrivals on the island; by the same period last year they had fallen to 351,000.

In 1975 there were 1,028 hotels and guest houses; now there are 717. Numbers of available beds have shrunk in that period from 13,928 to 11,143. Even the Tourist Trophy races, still the major single event in the Manx holiday calendar, are not the draw they were; an attendance of 79,000 in 1978 had fallen to 41,000 last year.

But tourism is still the third largest industry after financial services and manufacturing and it remains a major plank in the economy. The growth of the financial sector has brought a different kind of visitor, with more money on his credit card and by no means confined to the summer months.

Surprisingly, tourist revenue has more than managed to keep pace with inflation: £12.5 million in 1975-76, £17.5 million in 1980-81 and £21.3 million in 1983-84.

Despite its considerable scenic attractions and its unhurried air, the island has in many ways been lucky to sustain a tourist business. Only one new hotel has been built during the past 24 years, the Cherry Orchard at Port Erin opened in 1984. The largest hotel, the Palace in Douglas, has recently been refurbished, but the general Manx hotel standard is likely to disappoint.

One old hotel, the famous Golf Links at Castletown, has recently fallen into new hands, and there are hopes that an extensive improvement programme will bring it up to acceptable international standards.

Last year the Manx government introduced compulsory grading for all hotels and guest houses; only one, the Cherry Orchard, achieves the top grade of five keys. There are complaints locally that the scheme should have been introduced years ago, but a defensive Tourist Board points out that it is still one step ahead of the UK.

The island fares rather better with its restaurants. There is a large and varied selection, many of high standard, and two, La Rosette at Ballasalla and Boncompte in Douglas, have made it to the pages of Egon Ronay.

Building jobs for the future

Unemployment in the island is now running at 9 per cent which, although low compared with the more depressed areas of the mainland, is regarded as a wholly unacceptable level. In such a small community it is difficult to hide a dole queue of 2,500 people.

Traditional areas of employment, such as construction, have been the worst affected and the Manx government is trying to cushion the worst effects by timing the commissioning of public works projects to coincide with slumps in the private sector. One of the main aims of the island's current campaign to attract new residents is to stimulate new building.

Manufacturing industry, after several years in the doldrums, is now reporting a modest upturn and is exhibiting a general air of optimism. The government is anxious that among its new residents there should be a fair sprinkling of entrepreneurs who will establish new industries and jobs. They do not want people who will simply swell the dole queue.

Being an island, Man's ideal industry is one that converts low bulk into high value to make the shipping costs worthwhile. It has already had considerable success in attracting new enterprises; industry now creates 15 per cent of the island's wealth, the largest contributor after the financial sector.

Several incoming companies are well-established and successful. Eildon Fabrics, for example, came from Scotland to make net curtains; Sailcrest Engineers came from England to make suppressors. One of the latest and more unusual arrivals is Wren Skyships, which is seeking £11 million in grants from the government to establish the perfect island industry: airships. There are no freight charges when the product flies itself to the customer.

Light precision engineering is the Manx speciality. Ronaldsway Aircraft, the island's biggest private employer with 650 workers, makes parts for Martin-Baker ejector seats. Isle of Man Engineering also makes parts for the aircraft industry and Strix makes thermostats for electric kettles. Laserflex uses advanced laser technology to engrave printing cylinders.

The attraction for industry is the low rate of tax: a flat 20 per cent on undistributed profits and nothing more. Unlike the mainland the island retains generous capital allowances. But against those benefits must be set higher energy costs, particularly for electricity, and freight costs to the mainland.

One major scheme to attract new jobs is the establishment of a freeport adjoining Ronaldsway airport.



Waiting for lift-off: Major Malcolm Wren, left, of Wren Skyships, and his assistant Ian Alexander, with model of their proposed airship

Angels make a mint

Now that the once popular krugerrand is in many eyes a base and tainted coin because of its South African origin, the Manx treasury is hoping that those small investors who like to play the bullion market will come down instead on the side of the Angels.

The Angel was a medieval gold coin which first appeared in England from France in 1465 and disappeared again around 1630. It was revived by the Isle of Man last year, showing the standard profile of the Queen on the obverse and the same medieval theme of the Archangel Michael slaying a dragon on the reverse.

Struck by the Pobjoy Mint in England from one ounce of 22-carat gold, the Angel is legal tender in Man with a nominal face value of £5. But not many of them will be passing across the bar counters of Douglas in payment for a round of drinks; at current gold prices each Angel costs about £273. Giving them a face value is simply to enable them to be sold as coins rather than medallions.

Early reports suggest that the Angel is selling well, boosted by its becoming available recently in the UK and Europe. In the hope that it will eat into traditional krugerrand markets, the sales literature points out that it is struck in gold "from European sources".

At a recent American exhibition of the coin minter's art, the Angel won joint first prize in its design class against worldwide competition.

Now a whole family of Angels is being produced, in sizes from one-tenth of an ounce up to 10 ounces. The standard one-ounce coin will remain the most popular because it is a convenient round sum.

In 1983 the Isle of Man produced the first platinum legal tender coin anywhere in the world for 150 years, and that is still the case. The Noble, like the Angel, is of medieval origin and its Manx revival in the one-ounce size has a nominal face value of £10, with a Viking longship on the reverse of the Queen's head.

Despite the relative volatility of the bullion price, more than £50 million worth of Nobles have been sold so far.

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CRICKET: ENGLAND UNDER-PREPARED FOR THEIR ORDEAL BY PACE IN JAMAICA

Gower's team may yet upset West Indies' magic formula

From John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent, Kingston

Only a few months after onvincingly regaining the Ashes, England enter the first Test match against West Indies at Sabina Park here today s rank outsiders. Such is the night and the supremacy of Vest Indian fast bowling.

There have been other England tours to the Caribbean /hen the form of the team efore the start of the Test eries has been little better ıan this one of Gower's. In 959-60 Peter May's had just ost by 10 wickets to Barbados /hen they scored 482 in the rst Test at Bridgetown; in 967-68 Colin Cowdrey's were utplayed by Trinidad before aking 568 in the first Test at ort-of-Spain.

In those days West Indies ad not developed their resent formula for winning est matches. They played not ur very fast bowlers but only vo which meant that on the rst of these occasions they owled 105 overs of spin and 1 the second 130. Since the iddle 1970s, they have conntrated remorselessly and ith unprecedented success 1 speed.

In batting terms, there ould not be a lot to choose tween today's sides if atting were playing. England ould expect to make as many ns against their own attack West Indies will, and West dies no more against Marall and company than England are likely to. To put it other way, even Richards is own to be thankful that he not going to have to spend e next two months dodging d ducking his own attack.

It is not only the weight of fast bowling which Richards has at his command that is so forbidding, but its quality also. West Indies could round up four fast bowlers, besides those playing today, who might be more dangerous than any of England's. The West Indian newcomer, Patterson, looked twice the bowler in Tuesday's one-day international in the company of Walsh, Marshall and Garner, than when he struggled to take wickets for Lancashire last season. When things are going well for them, they bring the best out of each other.

Since adopting their present strategy, based on all-out speed, West Indies have not been beaten at home. Far more often than not they have won with the greatest of ease. If England were to change this trend now, without Gatting and with Botham less than fully fit, it would be one of the game's great turn-ups.

They will be tempted to stuff their side with all the batting they have got, at the expense of the bowling, in the hope of getting away with a draw; but to do so would, I think, be a tactical mistake. On a pitch which is not completely flat (though it has been given 24 hours' rolling since Tuesday) and in parts is still quite well grassed, West Indies will not necessarily make all the runs they want. While it would be a relief to be able to move on to Trinidad next Thursday without defeat or further injury, the chances of England winning a low-scoring match, should they be able to maintain an attack, are not to be entirely discounted.



Botham: not yet fully fit

We must expect more bouncers than in the one-day international, when each one was bowled at the risk of getting called a no-ball, and little that has been seen so far has suggested that the umpiring will not cause a good deal of suffering of one kind or another. In recent Kingston Test matches much too little has been done to protect the batsmen. New Zealand and West Indies waged a ferocious match here a year ago, in which Coney had his arm broken; the year before that Hogg was allowed to bowl 12 bouncers in two overs against the West Indian opening batsmen in retaliation for what Marshall and Garner had done to Australia. It was also here 10 years ago, that three Indian batsmen, Gaekwad, Viswanath and Patel, were so badly hurt as to be able to take no further part in the match. When asked yesterday whether he would be advising his bowlers to go easy on the short stuff, Richards replied: "No, that's up to the guys in the white coats."

This must be the first Test match for many years of which there will be no live television coverage. The terms on offer seemed perfectly reasonable, and the loss will be felt more by cricket followers in coldest England than viewers in West Indies, where local outside broadcasts are seldom scheduled

WEST INDIES (from): I V A Richards (captain), C G Greenidge, D L Haynes, H A Gomes, C A Best, A L Logie, P J Dujon, R J Harper, M D Marshall, M A Holding, J Garner, C A Walsh, B P Patterson.
ENGLAND (from): D I Gower (captain), G A Gooch, R T Robinson, D M Smith, A J Lamb, I T Botham, P Willey, P R Downton, J E Emburey, R M Ellison, P H Edmonds, N A Foster, J G Thomas, L B Taylor.

BADMINTON

Efficient Yates steps up to conquer

From A Correspondent
Mulheim, West Germany

Overcoming Finland and Norway 5-0 here yesterday means England need only to beat Wales to reach the last four of the European zone of the Thomas Cup world team championships. Three teams go through to the finals in Jakarta in April and May.

Nick Yates, chosen by the new manager, Jake Downey, at number one in the absence of theflu victim Steve Baddeley and in preference to the new national champion, Darren Hall, typified the English efficiency on this occasion.

The 24-year-old Londoner conceded only four points to the Finland number one Toni Tuominen, who the day before beat Phil Sutton, the Welsh number one making his way back after injury. It was Sutton who put Yates out of the last European championship.

Relatively minor variations in performance can cause spectacular disparities in results. A bored looking world number one Morten Frost discovered this and at the same time caused some excited squeals by going 2-10 down in the second game to Eddie van Herbruggen, a 21-year-old 6ft 4in private in the Belgium army who might do well to consider going to live and play badminton in the great centre of Copenhagen when he is discharged.

Frost eventually awoke to win 15-1, 15-11 and Denmark beat Belgium 5-0, whilst the Danish women have occupied a mere three hours and 10 minutes in winning two matches — a shorter time than their warm-up sessions had been taking.

This rather supports the contention of several leading coaches and managers that the format of the European zone should be altered to bring in the eight stronger nations at a later stage in the week. The International Badminton Federation is apparently to discuss the matter.

Denmark's other number one, Kirsten Larsen, the English Masters Champion, has yet to be used, whilst the English counterparts Helen Troke and Steve Baddeley were due to fly in and bolster the squads yesterday, fortified with the news about the entries for next month's All England championships at Wembley. For the first time in four years the leading Chinese men and women are not participating, preferring to concentrate on preparations for the Thomas and Uber Cup finals.

That means Troke, the European champion, has a real chance of becoming England's first singles winner since Gillian Gilks in 1978 while Baddeley — along with Yates, Butler and Hall — have prospects of becoming a home country's first men's singles semi-finalists since 1939.

FOOTBALL

Cavan sees UEFA lifting ban on English clubs

By Peter Ball

Harry Cavan, senior FIFA vice-president, believes that the ban on English clubs competing in Europe will be lifted at the UEFA congress in Lisbon in April. "There is already a strong lobby for the ban to be lifted, not because they love you but for financial reasons" Mr Cavan told a football writers' lunch in Manchester yesterday.

Mr Cavan admitted that the recent outbreak of hooliganism, including the aerosol attack on the Manchester United team at Anfield two weeks ago made him "apprehensive" about the prospects, but he added: "I think everybody is now satisfied that there was perhaps an over-reaction when the ban was imposed.

"I believe we should be in Europe next year. After all at the end of the day it was not the owners of the Heysel Stadium or Liverpool Football Club, it was the spectators who ran amok but it was Liverpool FC who were penalized."

Mr Cavan accepted that clubs would have to exercise control over their supporters if they do return to Europe, but he reiterated his belief that governments also must accept their responsibilities. He pointed out that although they argued that they were unable to withdraw passports because of the infringements on personal liberty, they had "no hesitation about stopping miners' pickets".

The influence of finance is also to be seen in this summer's World Cup. Television is bringing in 49 million Swiss Francs and Mr Cavan said that was a prime factor in the decision to make the kick-off time noon for many games, even though it works against the interests of spectators and especially players.

Mr Cavan agreed that the 24 team tournament also had its disadvantages, leading "to a dilution in quality" and making the choice of venues for future World Cups after Italy in 1990 more difficult. He said, however, that he could see no prospects of a reversion to a 16-team tournament as long as the Brazilian Joao Havelange is president.

His wide ranging speech ended on a note of foreboding as he revealed that UEFA have now withdrawn from their attempts to persuade the EEC Commission not to enforce the law allowing free movement of workers in football. He held out no prospects that that would now be stopped, although the member Football Association have been advised to approach their government for support. "We had seven years of negotiations and made no progress at all, although we have delayed it a bit".

Villa's assets are frozen by the winter weather

By Stuart Jones Football Correspondent

The icy grip of winter, which again threatens to cut deep into the weekend programme, is freezing the assets of even the biggest clubs. Aston Villa, for instance, have revealed that the postponement of their fixture against West Ham United on February 8 cost them "£67,500 and something", according to their commercial manager, Tony Stephens.

The match, which was heavily sponsored by local businesses and individuals, would have been beamed live on television to a number of countries in Europe and around the world. Villa lost not only these revenues, but also the gate receipts from potentially one of their entertaining more home games.

The club that regularly attracted crowds of some 32,000 to Villa Park five years ago can now no longer have realistic expectations of drawing half that figure. Their average gate, lifted predictably by the visits of Manchester United (27,626), Everton (22,048) and Liverpool (20,197), has fallen to below 15,000 so far this season.

Their last attendance, for the goalless draw against Southampton three weeks ago, amounted to a mere 8,456, their lowest for 29 years. The turnstiles that are rapidly gathering rust may not move again for another fortnight, except for the first leg of the Milk Cup semi-final against Oxford United, which is scheduled for next Tuesday.

Villa's season, and perhaps their immediate future, hinges on the outcome of the two ties against Oxford. If they go through to the final at Wembley on April 20, their share of the receipts and the prize-money from the competition's sponsors will guarantee them a financial reward of at least £250,000.

If not, they will collect £32,000 — the compensation for losing semi-finalists — and their one remaining target will be to avoid relegation from the first division during a programme that is likely to embrace 14 fixtures in eight weeks.

Villa's form does not lend itself to optimism. They have won only twice at home, against Luton Town in August and against Oxford United in November, and have sunk to 20th place above their Midland neighbours, West Bromwich Albion and Birmingham City, one of the seven relatively unattractive guests they have yet to receive in Canon League matches at Villa Park.

Stephens is aware that Villa are in danger of following the path that was taken by Norwich City and Sunderland last season. After reaching the final of the Milk Cup, both of them subsequently dropped down into the second division. "That would be a significant financial blow", he admitted, "but not an insurmountable one".

"If we had the choice, we would rather miss out on Wembley and stay up. The knock-on effect of playing the likes of Shrewsbury rather than Manchester United would be severe. I don't imagine that our commercial profits would reach £800,000, as they did last season. But we no longer so severely in debt.

"Three years ago, before Doug Ellis returned as chairman, it was estimated that we were £2 million in the red. That has since been reduced to about £500,000 and that does not include the value of our players or our ground. We have had to cut our cloth and, although our playing staff has not been substantially cut, we have invested heavily in youth.

"Our crowds may be disappointing, but we are within striking distance of the figure we need to break even. I'm sure that the supporters will come back, if not in the numbers that were here when we were winning the title and the European Cup. I think those days may have gone for good. For example, we are expecting only 9,500 for Ipswich."

The prospects of the game being staged tomorrow are not bright. Villa's next home appearance is planned for Saturday, March 8, against Arsenal but that depends on the fate of their opponents in their FA Cup fifth round replay against Luton Town, which is scheduled to take place at Highbury the previous Monday.

If Arsenal win, as expected, they will be playing either Tottenham Hotspur or Everton in the sixth round on the following Saturday. Villa will again be idle. That will mean effectively that the club will have received no gate receipts for a Canon League fixture for six weeks. Stephens conceded that "you could say we might then have a cash flow problem".

Hadlee presents main barrier to Australia

Wellington (Reuter) — stralia's attempt to avenge ir first Test series home eat by New Zealand hinges their ability to tame the fast wler, Richard Hadlee, the ring team's captain, Allan rder, said yesterday.

Hadlee took 33 wickets in a ee-Test series in Australia ore Christmas which New land won 2-1. The 34-year- Nottinghamshire all-nder now needs one wicket become the sixth bowler in ory to claim 300 wickets in ts.

We have considered how t to tame him although we w if he bowls long enough going to get wickets," der said on the eve of today's t Test match.

lew Zealand received a late w when their most experied batsman, John Wright, ruled unfit with a back ury. His withdrawal has prompted the recall of Auckland's opener Trevor Franklin, who has played four Tests, the last at Nottingham in 1983.

New Zealand are expected to omit either their spinner, John Bracewell, or their medium pace bowler, Gary Troup, while Australia may exclude their vice-captain, Ray Bright, and a medium pacer, either Dave Gilbert or Simon Davis.

The Western Australian wicketkeeper, Tim Zoehrer, is poised to make his first Test appearance, leaving Wayne Phillips to concentrate on his batting.

NEW ZEALAND (from): J V Coney (capt), T J Franklin, B A Edgar, M D Crowe, J F Reid, K R Rutherford, I D S Smith, R J Hadlee, S R Gillespie, E J Chatfield, J G Bracewell, M C Snedden, G B Troup.
AUSTRALIA (from): A R Border (capt), G R Marsh, D C Boon, G M Ritchie, G R J Matthews, W B Phillips, S R Waugh, T J Zoehrer, C J McDermott, B A Reid, D R Gilbert, R J Bright, S P Davis.

Colts captain frustrates Pakistan's bowlers

Kurunegala, Sri Lanka (Reuter) — A second wicket stand of 143 between the captain von Hagt and Bulankulame helped the Sri Lanka Colts XI to a useful score on the second day of their three-day game against Pakistan yesterday. After Pakistan had declared at their overnight score of 163 for six, the Colts were 248 for five off 77 overs at the close.

Coming together with the score at 29 for one following the dismissal of de Alwis for 15, the second wicket pair frustrated the Pakistani bowlers with a fine 209-minute partnership.

Von Hagt hit 10 fours before he was caught by Mohsin Khan off Zakir Khan for 88. Four runs later, Bulankulame was caught in the gully by Imran Khan off Wasim Akram for 53.

Wickremasinghe and Jurangpathy took the score to 211 when the latter was caught at mid-on by Mohsin Khan off Mohsin Kamal for 13. Wickremasinghe made 40 before he was trapped leg-before by Zakir Khan with the total on 241. Zakir Khan, with two for 46 off 17 overs was the most successful Pakistan bowler.

PAKISTANIS: First innings 163 for 6 dec (BOWLING: Silva 17-4-61-3; Herath 20-6-53-1; Von Hagt 4-0-12-0; S Weerasinghe 11-2-33-2; Jayawardena 3-0-11-0)

SRI LANKA COLTS XI: First innings
*M Von Hagt c Mohsin Khan b Zakir .. 88
†K de Alwis c Mohsin Kamal b Imran . 15
D Bulankulame c Imran b Akram 53
R Wickremasinghe lbw b Zakir 40
R Jurangpathy c Mohsin Khan b Mohsin Kamal 13
R Pauplilai not out 14
O Weerasinghe not out 3
Extras (lb 2, w 3, nb 17) 22
Total (5 wkts) 248
R Jayawardena, S Weerasinghe, O Herath and S Silva to bat
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-29, 2-172, 3-176, 4-211, 5-241.

BOWLS

Formidable favourites

The newly-crowned world indoor champion, Tony Allcock, and the best-known bowler of them all, David Bryant, will team up as the formidable favourites at the televised inaugural Midland Bank indoor pairs championships at Bournemouth from April 7 to 13.

Allcock and Bryant are one of 16 pairs of top-class bowls players competing for £40,000 in prize money. The winning pair will receive £10,000. They are likely to receive tough opposition from Scotland's Willie Wood and David Gourlay, both Commonwealth Games gold medal winners, and from Ireland's Sammy Allen and Jim Baker.

The tournament comprises four groups with the four pairs in each section playing a round-robin competition over three sets of seven ends each set. The four group winners will then play knock-out semi-finals over five sets and the final will be the best of nine sets of seven ends.
GROUP 1: R Fairburn, R Stephenson (Eng); W Harkness, F Muirhead (Scot); T Sullivan, J R Evans (Wal); P Belliss, P Skoglund (NZ).
GROUP 2: B W Nicol, I S Bruce (Scot); J Otoway, J Bell (Eng); S Allen, J Baker (Ire); D Peoples, K Williams (Aus).
GROUP 3: J Thomas, D L Evans (Wales); R McCutcheon, D Hamilton (Ire); D Bryant, A Allcock (Eng); R Jones, B Boshier (Can).
GROUP 4: J Brankin, W Montgomery (Ire); R Hill, J Wright (Wal); W Wood, D Gourley (Scot); G Souza (HK), C Branaky (Isr).

TENNIS

Battle of giants under the setting sun

From Richard Evans, Boca Raton

deep-seated defiance in my Connors enables him to the kind of match that took into the semi-finals of the ton International Players ampionships here. It was the match of the tournament so and it left Yannick Noah in pair. The score said that mors was the winner by 5-7, 7-6, 6-4,but another set of istics would make it difficult anyone to believe that Noah lost.

he big Frenchman served no than 30 aces,while Connors not produced one until, supreme irony, heserved ace against Noah on the very point of the match. More redibly, Noah held breakit on Connors's serve 26 es and yet he only converted e of them and one of those a double fault.

I have never missed so many ortunities in my life" Noah with a dazed expression on face after this strength-bing three hour forty five ute battle that left both men ing mentally and physically drained. "I had so many break-points; so many it was just incredible".

Even though Noah felt he had lost the timing of his top-spin forehand, it was the Frenchman's backhand that Connors pressured incessantly on those break-points; continually coming up with well-angled serves which gave him a chance to pull Noah wide and force yet another error at a crucial moment.

Some of the tennis was breathtaking, and as the sun sank away to offer us a sunset as colourful as the drama taking place on court, a large crowd of some 8,000 became more and more involved in the match.

Nothing could detract from the excellence of Connors's play whenever he was cornered, but, nevertheless, Noah received the worst of some very bad line calls. Boca West is owned by Arvida, a Disney company, and there were moments when one wondered whether it was Mickey Mouse or Goofy calling the lines.

It was only four games after Noah had appealed for an over-rule without success that Connors served what appeared to be a second consecutive double fault at 30-40. The score stood five all in the third set and the point would have left Noah serving for a two set to one lead. But although the serve landed at least two inches long right under the umpire's nose, the official refused to over- rule his linesman as Noah stormed towards the chair, throwing down his racket and demanding the referee.

That request was refused, too, and he did well to collect his wits in time to take the set into the tie- break. But once again Noah let his chances slip away when he held two set points

Even when Connors served for the match, Noah reached 15-40 but, like a terrier with the ball extrordinary competitor shook himself free and simply refused to let go.

The 33-year-old American was a late entry here, saying that he needed match practice. Now, after a series of tough matches, he has got more than he bargained for and with two strapped ankles and an aching body one only hopes he will be fit for tomorrow's semi- final.

It was a day of lost opportunities for France. Guy Forget played the best tennis of his career to lead Mats Wilander by a set and 4-2 before the Swede started to settle into a rhythm on his serve and take greater care with his passing shots. As Forget began to tire Wilander seized control and won 5-7, 6-4, 6-4, 6-3.

Last year at the inaugural Lipton event Tim Mayotte and Scott Davis emerged as two unlikely finalists. It says much for the seriousness with which the senior players are viewing these championships now that four of the worlds top six - Ivan Lendl, who meets Connors, and Wilander, who takes on a fellow Swede Stefan Edberg - have fought their way through the 128 man draw to contest the semi-finals

BASKETBALL

Eligibility question dogs Clark

By Nicholas Harling

ach is the current, inspired n of Martin Clark, Team ycell Kingston's 6ft 8in forrd, that the sooner his eliity is resolved the better it be for England and everyone erned. Clark, who followed 53 points for Kingston inst Bracknell on Sunday 155 against Sperrings Solent rs on Wednesday, is not wed to play for England ause be played in a proional league — that is now nct — in America during the ason.

IBA, the world governing y, who banned Clark from ying for his country, have roved the principle of open ketball; this would enable yers such as Clark, who are stered with their national sociations, to play in all rnational competition. Unrunately for England, however, the ratification of the , the proposal at FIBA's world conss may come three months late for the European mpionships, which begin in enhagen in April.

ll Beswick, the England coach, had looked on despairingly as his England team, without Clark, slumped to a depressing defeat in their last world championship group game against Switzerland at Leicester last week. England could certainly have used the player who is putting many Americans playing here in the shade, just as they could have done with him last November when they lost to Czechoslovakia and Israel, also in the world championships.

Clark's contribution helped Kingston to the second highest score recorded by a club in the National League. Kingston's 161-111 win against Solent has been beaten only by Crystal Palace, who scored 165 against Vauxhall in 1977.

For Solent, who had lost the Prudential National Cup final to Kingston by 31 points in January, it was an embarrassing night. "Getting beaten by 10 points is one thing but losing by 50 is a disgrace," Roger Nash, the Solent chairman, said. Only two points came from T. J. Robinson. Solent's American forward, who has just relieved himself of administrative work connected with the club. Robinson helped form the consortium that brought in Nash and others, which helped save Solent from extinction a year ago.

Another American on the south coast, Jose Slaughter, is making a successful comeback with Portsmouth, having injured his back so badly a month ago that he was not expected to play again this season. Slaughter, playing his third game since returning, was his club's top scorer with 31 points in their 118-108 home defeat by Crystal Palace. Portsmouth started without their England international, Colin Irish, who has aggravated a cheek injury, but he did come on to score 22 points. Palace's American pair, Seaman (41 points) and Jennings (39), were the game's top scorers.

Sharp Manchester United's 107-90 win at Walkers Crisps Leicester means that they have to win only one of their remaining two home games, against Solent on Saturday and Bracknell next Tuesday, to take the Carlsberg National League title.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

7.30 unless stated

FOOTBALL

Fourth division
Colchester v Orient P
Exeter v Cambridge Utd
Halifax v Port Vale
Stockport v N'Thampton

RUGBY UNION

ARMY MINOR UNITS CUP: Final: 24th Field Sqn RE (Rochester) v Depot The Prince of Wales's Division (Crickhowell) (at Aldershot, 2.30).

OTHER SPORT

BADMINTON: Essex championships (at Redbridge SC).
SNOOKER: Dulux British Open (at Derby Assembly Rooms).

Top entry

Oakland (AP) - Martina Navratilova, the top-ranked woman player, has entered the Virginia Slims tournament which opens here on February 24. Chris Lloyd, who is ranked second in the world, and Hana Mandlikova, the no 3, had already done so. Miss Navratilova's last appearance in the event was two years ago, when her run of 54 victories was ended by Miss Mandlikova, who beat her 7-6, 3-6, 6-4 in the final.

TABLE TENNIS

EUROPEAN LEAGUE: Super division: Sweden bt Netherlands 6-1, Poland bt Yugoslavia 4-3

IN BRIEF

New York (Reuter) - The United States Football League (USFL) will resume action next autumn in direct competition with the more established National Football League (NFL). Since its inception the USFL has never scheduled games at the same time of year as the NFL and last year their american football season was suspended.

Yesterday's announcement by the USFL commissioner, Harry Usher, made it clear that previous reports that the USFL was on the verge of suspending operations until the autumn of 1987 were unfounded.

According to Usher, the league will field eight teams next autumn and itb will apparently continue to pursue its $1.32 billion federal anti-trust suit against the NFL.

HORSE TRIALS: The new director of the Burghley horse trials will be Bill Henson, a Lincolnshire farmer. Henson, aged 52, who succeeds Charles Stratton, rode four times at Badminton during the 1950s and also competed once at Burghley. This year,prize money at Burghley will increase by 25 per cent to £25,000 with £6,000 going to the winner.

ALPINE SKIING

COLORADO: US Championships: Men's giant slalom: 1, T Shaw, 2min 13.13sec. Women's: 1, S Madsen, 2:19.09; 2, T McKinney 2:19.60; 3, E. Twardokens, 2:19.93

Move to end discipline anomalies

By Paul Newman

The Football Association are planning to reform their disciplinary procedures in order to end the anomalies affecting many clubs at the highest levels of non-League football. Under a proposal which seems likely to be adopted, disciplinary methods will be handled according to clubs' league status rather than whether they are full or associate members of the FA.

Under the current system, the national organization deals with players from clubs in full membership, whereas those from associate member clubs come under the jurisdiction of county associations, who tend to be more severe in their punishments.

The counties, who discipline players for a specified period of time, frequently impose suspensions of up to four weeks (which could mean eight or more games) on players who are sent off. The national FA have a two-tier system. When dealing with clubs from the Gola League, Multipart League, Vauxhall-Opel premier division and Southern premier division, they use the same points totting-up procedure as for Canon League clubs and players are rarely banned for more than one or two games; when handling other full member clubs, the FA use a system similar to the counties'.

These anomalies have meant that players from different clubs sent off in the same match may be given substantially different punishment according to their clubs' FA status. Although most clubs from the more senior leagues are full members (for example, all Gola League clubs are full members), there is much less consistency just below the highest levels. For example, 10 of the 21 clubs in the Southern League southern division are full members, the rest associate members.

Full membership is granted to clubs on an individual basis, largely according to their performances in FA competitions, and the status is rarely removed once granted. While some full members are now playing well below the top levels, some associate members who have made substantial progress both on and off the pitch have either been consistently refused full membership or have had to wait several years for it.

Attempts have been made to reform the membership system and thereby end the disciplinary anomalies. Two years ago the FA proposed to grant full membership to clubs only in the Gola League, Multipart League, Vauxhall-Opel premier division, Southern premier division and Drybroughs Northern first division; all other clubs would have become associate members.

However, the plan was dropped after it met widespread opposition because it would have led to 84 clubs outside the senior divisions — including such famous names as Corinthian-Casuals, Bromley, Clapton, Oxford City, West Auckland and Ashington — losing their full membership.

The FA's disciplinary committee are now backing a scheme under which clubs' disciplinary matters would be handled according to their league, rather than their FA status. Clubs from the Gola League, Multipart League, Southern premier division, Vauxhall-Opel premier and first divisions and Drybroughs Northern first division would be dealt with by the national organization; all others would go the counties.

In practice, this would mean that of the present 256 full member clubs, only 212 would remain under the disciplinary jurisdiction of Lancaster Gate. Previous reforms have often been blocked by the counties, but as this proposal extends their powers it seems to have a greater chance of success. It has already received the backing of the FA Council and now needs to be approved by the FA's annual meeting.

If the scheme is adopted, it seems unlikely that any further attempt will be made in the immediate future to reform the membership system. Although associate member clubs have no voting rights and only full members receive FA Cup final tickets, the disciplinary problems have always been the most important area of concern for associate member clubs.

● Weymouth are to move to a new stadium two miles away from their present home in the city centre. A supermarket is to be built on the Gola League club's Recreation Ground and they hope to move next January to a ground on the site of the former Wessex Speedway stadium.

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

CARLSBERG NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Team Polycell (Kingston 101 (Clark 55, Bontrager 44, Banks 32, Sperrings Solent Stars 111 (Lewis 35, Whitehead 28, Skaugh 27); Wellers Crisps Leicester 90 (Vaughan 27, Young 22, Meagher 16), Sharp Manchester United 107 (Gardiner 23, T Brown 20, W Brown 18); Portsmouth 108 (Slaughter 31, Irish 22, Wells 16), Crystal Palace 118 (Seaman 41, Jennings 39, Simpson 16); Hemel/Watford Royals 107 (Belogan 20, Spold 19, Lloyd 19), Happy Eater Bracknell 104 (Combs 27, Lynch 22, Scantlebury 16); Brunel Docks Uxbridge and Camden 92 (Pettit 27, Kellyhorne 25, Roberts 16), Mission Beeco Worksop 75 (Hungerford 25, Burns 13).
KORAC CUP: Semi-final: Banco di Roma 78, Antibes Olympique (Fr) 69.
Men's European Champions Cup: Semi-final: Olympia Simac Milan 90, Cibona Zagreb 86.
RONCHETTI CUP: Semi-final, first leg: Womicourt (Fra) 75, BSE Budapest 70.
UNITED STATES: National Association (NBA): Boston Celtics 115, Golden State Warriors 100; Los Angeles Lakers 90, Indiana Pacers 81; Philadelphia 76ers 153, Portland Trail Blazers 133; Chicago Bulls 99, New Jersey Nets 98; Utah Jazz 108, Atlanta Hawks 105; Milwaukee Bucks 124, Dallas Mavericks 107; Detroit Pistons 118, Seattle SuperSonics 113.

BOXING

ALBERT HALL: Welterweight (8 rounds): Robert Smith (St Ives) bt Billy Edwards (Hoxton), 8st. Heavyweight (8 rounds): Gary Mason (Wandsworth) bo Danny Bryan (Sevenoaks), 1st. Flyweight (10 rounds): Duke McKenzie (Croydon) bt Sonny Long (Cincinnati), pts.

YACHTING

AUCKLAND: World OK dinghy championships: Third race: 1, M Fisher (Aus) 12:13.19; 2, L Armit (NZ), 12:14.01, C Monk (NZ), 12:14.20. Fourth race: 1, Armit, 3:28.28; 2, P Meo (NZ), 3:29.43; 3, Fisher, 3:33.44. Overall: 1, Armit, 24.7 pts. 2, Fisher, 27.42; 3, M Andersson (Swe) 44

FOOTBALL

RABAT: Morocco 0, Bulgaria 0.
ELCHE: Spain 3, Belgium 0.
MEXICO CITY: Mexico 1, Soviet Union 0.
FRENCH CUP: Second round, second leg: Metz 2, Strasbourg 1 (Strasbourg qualify 2-2 on aggregate); Bordeaux 1, Red Star 0 (2-0); Marseilles 2, Pont-Saint-Esprit 0 (2-0); Blenod 0, Sete 0 (3-0); Limoges 1, Concarneau 0 (2-1); Rennes 1, Le Havre 0 (2-2); Brest 4, Lille 2 (5-3); Bochaux 0, Auxerre 1 (2-0); Lens 1, Beauvais 1 (3-2); Angers 1, Laval 2 (3-1); Montpellier 1, Paris Saint-Germain 1 (5-4); Racing de Paris 2, Les Cres 0 (Paris 6-0); Rouen 2, Moulins 0 (6-1); Mulhouse 1, Nice 1 (2-1).
VAUXHALL OPEL LEAGUE: AC Delco Cup: Fourth round replay: Uxbridge v Epsom & Ewell postponed.
MIDDLESEX CHARITY CUP: First round: Hampton v Staines postponed.

BOBSLEIGHING: Detlef Richter piloted East Germany III to the fastest combined time of 1min 41.90sec in yesterday's practice for the world two-man bobsleigh championship in Königsee.
LEADING COMBINED TIMES: 1, East Germany III (D Richter and S Grummt) 1:41.90; 2, West Germany I (A Fischer and C Lange) 1:42.13; 3, Switzerland II (E Scheerer and A Tiefer) 1:42.19; 4, East Germany I (W Hoppe and D Schauerhammer) 1:42.26; 5, Switzerland I (R Pichler and C Polterra) 1:42.27

BIATHLON: Valery Medvetchev, of the Soviet Union, took the gold medal in the 20-kilometre event at the world champuonships in Oslo yesterday with a time of 57min 05.3sec. Medvetchev won despite being awarded penalty points totalling two minutes for missing two of the five shooting targets.

HOCKEY

PIZZA EXPRESS LONDON LEAGUE

Premier division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Southgate	7	4	3	0	15	6	15
Slough	4	4	0	3	38	9	12
Hounslow	4	3	1	0	8	4	10
Blackheath	5	2	1	2	6	9	7
Beckenham	5	2	0	3	10	8	6
Bromley	4	2	0	2	4	6	6
Richmond	5	2	0	3	8	13	6
Teddington	5	1	2	2	4	6	5
Spencer	4	0	3	1	5	9	3
St Albans	4	0	0	4	4	10	0

First Eleven

	P	W	D	L	Pts	%
Southgate	17	14	3	0	45	88.24
Teddington	15	10	2	3	32	71.11
Blackheath	15	10	2	3	32	71.11
Bromley	16	10	4	2	34	70.83
Hounslow	18	11	5	2	38	70.37
Surbiton	19	11	5	3	38	66.67
Slough	16	10	2	4	32	66.67
Reading	13	7	5	1	26	66.67
Tulse Hill	14	6	6	2	24	57.14
Richmond	16	6	3	5	27	56.25
St Albans	15	5	1	6	25	55.56
Spencer	17	6	1	6	27	52.94
Guildford	13	5	2	5	20	51.28
Beckenham	18	8	3	7	27	50.00
Kingstonians	17	7	4	6	25	49.02
Wimbledon	16	7	1	8	22	45.83
Maidenhead	17	5	6	4	33	45.10
London Univ	17	7	1	9	22	43.14
Dulwich	17	6	2	9	20	39.22
Hampstead	18	4	2	12	14	28.93
Cambridge U	17	3	4	10	13	25.49
Hawks	17	2	3	12	9	17.65
Chesm	18	2	3	13	9	16.67
Oxford U	18	2	2	14	8	14.81
Purley	18	2	2	14	8	14.81
Mid Surrey	18	1	1	16	4	7.41

ICE HOCKEY

NORTH AMERICA: National League (NHL): Edmonton Oilers 9, Toronto Maple Leafs 5; Washington Capitals 4, Montreal Canadiens 4, Hartford Whalers 6, Buffalo Sabres 4; Pittsburgh Penguins 5, Winnipeg Jets 2; Minnesota North Stars 6, Chicago Black Hawks 5

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RUGBY UNION

England can catch up on their fitness during summer recess

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

It is going to be a hectic summer down under. France will be rattling round from Argentina to New Zealand to Australia; Italy are to visit Australia, and the Wallabies themselves have a tour to New Zealand where they will set about recovering the Bladisloe Cup.

There is no place on the merry-go-round for the home countries. Wales had hopes of visiting either Australia or New Zealand but, as latecomers, in what was scheduled to be a British Lions year, have been unable to arrange anything. They, like England, must be content with a B tour to Italy from mid-May to mid-June, encompassing five matches.

The first fortnight of May will see Scotland playing five matches in Spain and France; Ireland, however, have nothing in the pipeline. Frankly, it may be no bad thing; there is going to be a lot of rugby between September this year and June next year and England's leading players, certainly, have had no summer respite for eight years. Since 1979 there has been either an England or a Lions tour to keep rugby's pot boiling.

I shudder to think what France's casualty list will be when they return from their south Pacific travels. They may be able to afford the loss of outstanding players during their next domestic season (when they entertain New Zealand) but England cannot because they are by no means so well blessed.

What England's administrators will do is endeavour to turn their players into the kind of athletes they will encounter in Australia next year during the world tournament. It is late in the day perhaps but there has not been a shortage of voices crying in the wilderness: for most of the last decade, Don Rutherford, the Rugby Football Union technical administrator, Chalkie White and other leading coaches who have seen the All Blacks on their native heath have been calling for greater fitness.

New Zealanders who have come to work in Britain have been appalled constantly at the lack of application of English club players in their game preparations, though they concede that the players are not helped by burdensome fixture lists.

During the summer, after the return of the B team from Italy, England will establish a pool of around 33 players from whom they hope to pick their World Cup squad. Each player, wherever he lives, will have a "minder", whose task it will be to ensure the physical advancement of his charges. Such a strict regime is the price one pays nowadays for world competition, even in an amateur game, and it will still not compare with the sacrifice which leading athletes and swimmers have imposed upon themselves for years.

It is foolish to pretend that England have a production line of John Jeffreys waiting in the wings. The amount of advice the selectors will have received after last Saturday's drubbing at the hands of Scotland is beyond measure but the obvious alternatives for selection against Ireland in eight days time are few. Anyone may argue pros and cons in particular positions but essentially it remains a matter of individual preference rather than generally accepted ommision.

It is worth defining what the strengths of the English game are (and they are linked very much to the set piece) and working on them because the face of England's game is not going to change in 16 months — maybe by the time the second world tournament (if there is one) comes round, but not for the inaugural one.

In consequence it is hard to envisage many changes after the Calcutta Cup game; after all, the same side did beat Wales a fortnight earlier. England's team to play Ireland will be picked on Sunday and it is hoped to organize a workout on Monday, or if club games go ahead tomorrow on any scale, an earlier-than-usual Thursday session.

England's wasteful tradition is a warning to the Welsh

By Gerald Davies

It might be, if you listen hard enough, that the enigmatic French observation *plus ca change, plus c'est la même chose*, with a suitable Cambro-Gallic shrug of the shoulders, arms half outstretched with palms turned skyward, just might be heard in Wales.

Not necessarily in the whispers of those Welshmen from the more educated ranks, now jauntily brushing up their French phrases ready for the big match in a week's time and wanting something more in keeping with their station in life than the simple *ca va*. Rather, it reflects the feelings of others that after three years Wales are back in some kind of business.

A Welshman, with the greatest deference, of course, might also cast an eye over the border with head-shaking resignation and consider the phrase in the light of England's current dilemma. How is it, he may wonder, that a month's euphoria after the victory against Wales should now so suddenly be replaced by something so utterly different?

How much difference should one game make? Is there so much wrong with a team which, by common consent, had gone a long way to getting it right against Wales and, unchanged, had got it wrong against Scotland?

The same Welshman might wonder at the route that Rob Andrew might be forced to wander and which might lead him to the same graveyard as so many English half backs of the last 20 years. The match winner against Wales and, rightly, the great hero of the hour, is now brought into question after only one game.

The claims of Stuart Barnes, since discarded after an outstanding tour of New Zealand, is once more brought into the reckoning. It is a familiar see-saw scene. Many a former English stand-off half is now looked back upon with warm nostalgia and a feeling of lost opportunity.

There are a few with substantial talent of whom it may be wondered how they could have played so few times for their country. Andrew and Barnes are soon to find out whether history is about to repeat itself and that they, too, might find themselves as part of this continuing, but wasteful, tradition.

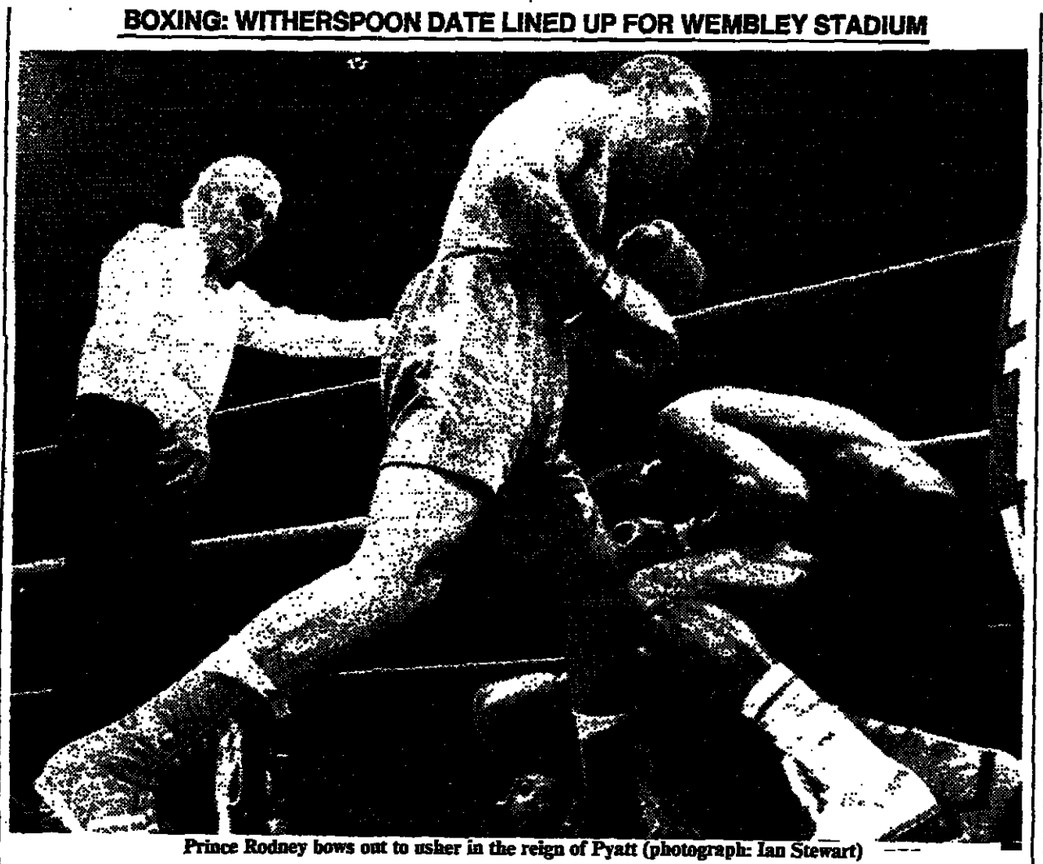
It is a team which ought to be strengthened but however devoutly changes in the front five and on the wing may be wished, there are no obvious alternatives. The spirit within is high, a welcome change from more recent years, and there has been improvement in every game. The team survive, and it has been a matter of survival in large patches of their game on the prodigious efforts of the quintet of players, the half backs, centres and full backs.

The scrummage is beginning to look more solid, butneither Whitefoot nor Eidman is conspicuous elsewhere in the way prop forwards from other countries are in the loose. Stuart Evans, of Neath, would be included but for his injury, and it may be that Buchanan, of Llanelli, could get his chance.

Adrian Hadley seems to lack any sense of urgency on one wing and Phil Lewis on the other, although an admirable defender, seems prone to dropping too high a percentage of balls. Although they have scored a try each during the international season, neither has had a good enough chance, to be fair, to show his paces in attacks.

Such changes are only likely if the Welsh selectors wish to look beyond next Saturday's game; but the prestige of sharing the championship, once so unlikely, may prove too strong a persuasion to tinker again with the line-up.

BOXING: WITHERSPOON DATE LINED UP FOR WEMBLEY STADIUM



Prince Rodney bows out to usher in the reign of Pyatt (photograph: Ian Stewart)

The world is waiting for Bruno

By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

Wembley Stadium could stage its first world title bout since Cassius Clay met Henry Cooper there in 1963, if Frank Bruno beats Gerrie Coetzee, of South Africa, at Wembley Arena on March 4.

The promoters, Mike Barrett and Mickey Duff, said yesterday that they were confident of bringing the World Boxing Association heavyweight champion, Tim Witherspoon, to London on June 14.

"We are 101 per cent confident we can outbid anyone if the fight goes to purse offers," Barrett said. The promotion could gross £3 million — or even exceed £5 million, if the bout is seen across the world — according to Barrett.

Bruno was delighted. "This is what I have been dreaming of for a very long time," he said. "But first I have to get Coetzee out of the way. I think I have got him taped. He is 30 and I don't think he should have another world title chance." Bruno's manager, Terry Lawless, said: "All I can say is that the fight against Coetzee is all the more important."

Another British champion with an exciting future is Chris Pyatt, of Leicester. He knocked out Prince Rodney, of Huddersfield, to win the British light-middleweight title at the Albert Hall on Tuesday night. Pyatt should go far; stopping Rodney was no mean feat. Rodney is experienced and has a knock-out punch, but that did not worry Pyatt. He went straight in and took charge.

When Pyatt landed the right uppercut that caught Rodney full on the left eye and brought the champion to his knees, he stepped out of the shadow of the other Leicester boxer, Tony Sibson. Pyatt, however, wants to follow in Sibson's footsteps and move up to middleweight in time. "I admire Tony," he said. "I learnt a lot from him when I was his sparring partner."

The 23-year-old Commonwealth Games champion brushed aside suggestions that he might be a bit on the short side for a middleweight. "I am as tall as Marvin Hagler and taller than Sibson. I am in no hurry but in time I should be a middleweight," he said.

However, as he is a close fighter he is open to the quick counter and has been floored and sustained two bad cuts, one above the right eye in his last contest and one below that eye in this one that needed six stitches.

Pyatt is managed by Sam Burns, but now that Sibson, who used to be with Burns, has put himself under Frank Warren, the new champion does not spar any more with Sibson. He finishes off his training in Terry Lawless's Canning Town gym in London.

Pyatt can now box Nick Wilshire, the Commonwealth champion, or go for the European title. Pyatt does not want to meet Wilshire as they are friends and sparring partners. "Nick is a friend of mine," he said. "I would fight him because we are professionals, but I would prefer to fight for the European title. The board have promised to nominate me," he said.

Besides, after Wilshire's surprising defeat by Lloyd Hibbert, of Birmingham, the same night, when the Commonwealth champion was severely punished by uppercuts from the fifth to the eighth and had to be retired, a double championship bout between the two champions does not seem attractive at the moment.

Nor is Wilshire's style interesting to watch these days. He tends to cast boxing to one side and walk into his opponents throwing body shots and getting caught too often in the process.

Prince Rodney, who claimed that he had been thumbed in the eye by Pyatt, must now wait to see if the punch will aggravate the old injury received in sparring that put him in hospital for an operation and out of action for months.

GOLF

Flanders recalled after the deluge

From John Ballantine
Los Angeles

As if all their other probl were not enough, the Cham of Commerce here, who promote and run the Los Ang Open, face disruption to t 60th tournament by the serie storms which have turned Riviera greens into someth resembling blancmange.

Unlike northern Califor this is not a disaster area but "City of Angels" has not s rain like it for several years even if the players and greenkeepers manage to stru through and bring the t nament to a successful con sion by the weekend, notl will be quite the same again

Trucks dumped 50 loads dirt and gravel on to the wet parts last week but pre-t nament events from Sunda Wednesday had to be cancel Wednesday's pro-am was ca off and the unhappy 184 a teurs forfeited £1,250 e Parts of the famous course l more like Flanders in the I World War than sunny Cali nia.

Spectators are notorio fickle here and, as in the o rain-affected tournaments cently in Pebble Beach and Diego, which were both redu to 54 holes, a hefty loss se likely.

It is no secret that PGA officials would like to se commercial co-sponsor for event this year and the Japa firm, Nissan, is said to be front-runner. The prize-mo of £450,000 is low by pres day standards and the event not be shown on nation television this year.

"One reason for CBS picking us up is that they c not get enough guaran advertising revenue," S Kelly, marketing director of Los Angeles Chamb said. "We've also got the w date on the West Coast pa the circuit, just after Hawaii just before the pros hav make the 3,000-mile shif Florida" he added.

"A corporate sponsor w pay us cash and guara advertising but we are certain that is the way we to go," he went on. "We seen what happened in Diego where they have three different names in the in the past five years and don't want to be at the mer a company who may ques their $3 million (£2.1 mil outlay for sponsorship."

However, the wind of ch is blowing that way. The phone company, AT&T, over Pebble Beach from K Crosby, and Karsten Solh the manufacturer of "P clubs, told me in Honolulu week that he would like to to play a financial role in future promotion of the Pho Open which is currently ru the Junior Chamber of C merce in that city who themselves the "Thunderbi

Broughton Park are reaping benefit of home produce

Those who enjoy omens might care to note that Leicester, on the way to their first winning cup final, beat Broughton Park in the fourth round in 1979. Moreover, any Leicester follower (all of them students of the Orient) will tell you that this is the Year of the Tiger.

This season Leicester are once more due to meet Broughton Park in the fourth round of the John Player Special Cup, although the weather seems determined to postpone the game as long as possible. A mid-day pitch inspection at the Park's Chelsfield Grove ground today will indicate whether enough frost has come out of the playing surface.

The Park will tell you, frankly, that this is not the cup-tie they would have chosen, recognizing that Leicester must be warm favourites. Nevertheless, this season represents a marked improvement on last year when their Irish full back, Kevin O'Brien, spent most of the season injured and they subsided from the Northern merit table back into the qualifying table.

When considering Manchester rugby one tends not to think much beyond Sale, though the Park and the Manchester club itself are venerable institutions. Manchester celebrated 125 years of rugby before Christmas and the Park have seen 104 seasons come and go. Over that time they have developed a healthy self-reliance, learning to produce their own players rather than depending on talent moving into the area.

They have seen individuals such as Tony Bond go to Sale, Jim Syddall to Waterloo and Paul Jackson, whose father and grandfather played for the Park, making his way with Harlequins. They will, of course, reflect that England's most capped player, Tony Neary, spent his senior career with them, yet the shadow of Sale remains long. Only this season another centre, Lindsay Renwick, went to Brooklands before moving south and joining London Scottish.

The thumb injury that kept O'Brien out between October and April last season deprived Broughton Park of more than just a full back. Capped by Ireland against England in 1980 and South Africa the following year, O'Brien has the experience needed to prompt a team, many of whom are under 23; he is far and away the best place kicker in the club (232 points this season) and remains the fastest back in the side, wearing his 30 years lightly.

"You could say we are a resilient side" Archie McCallum, a club spokesman, said, pointing out that a week after losing 53-6 to Durham City they beat Bedford in the second round of the cup - on television too - by 37-10, O'Brien having a hand in four tries. In the first round they had a much closer encounter with Stourbridge winning 13-9, before the 10-6 victory against Vale of Lune which ensured their best cup season so far.

Dominic Stone, their promising young lock, played a vital role against the Vale. It was his two-handed catch at a lineout near the opposition line that set up Jimmy Wilde, last season's captain, for a try. It was also his catch, on his own line near the end of the match, that deprived Vale of Lune of the chance to pull level.

Stone, standing some 6ft 7in, came into the side 15 months ago. Graham Higginbotham, a Lancashire colt, was brought in this season after injuries disrupted the existing midfield and has held down his place in the centre alongside the diminutive Chris Morgan, whose tackling - as with so many small men - belies his stature.

Broughton Park see the future in terms of leagues. They are one of seven clubs willing to form a premier division to the existing Giro Bank North West League.

At the moment any kind of rugby would suit, league, cup or friendly; at least they can be assured of an attractive Cup encounter with Leicester, a healthy crowd and a beneficial income of cash to offset the disappointment felt after they ordered straw to cover their pitch for the original fourth round cup date of February 8, only for it to arrive the day after the frost.

David Hands

Dutch pull out of England game

Schools rugby by Michael Stevenson

Not surprisingly the England 18 group trials, which should have been held last weekend, had to be cancelled and have been rearranged for this weekend. The northern regional trials will be held at Loughborough GS tomorrow where Midlands will meet North; South and South West will face South East at the National Westminster Bank ground, Beckenham, Kent on Sunday.

The England 16 group side were scheduled to meet the Netherlands on March 23 at Newcastle upon Tyne but the Dutch have withdrawn because of financial problems and there seems to be a realistic chance that a match against the RFSU President's XV will take its place. The 16 group will then travel to Italy for a two-match tour.

Edinburgh Academy found that life at the top was demanding this season but with only two of last season's unbeaten side available, they still managed to finish with a thoroughly respectable count of nine wins and five losses.

Colin Innes, Edinburgh's lock and captain, and Scott Bell, in the centre, were the two survivors of last season's triumph and did much to hold an inexperienced side together. Talent-spotters with an eye to the future should note the name. Nigel Douglas, who scored 14 tries in two matches for the under-15s, then played most of the season in the first XV. His father is John Douglas, the former Lions and Scotland No 8.

Two exceptionally promising players, Gavin Gee and Rob Forshaw, are selected for the Lancashire 18 group tour of Australia (July 13 to August 13). Gavin's father played with distinction as hooker for Wigan at rugby union and his grandfather was the legendary Ken Gee, the Great Britain rugby league prop, who toured Australia 36 years ago. Rob Forshaw captains the very successful Winstanley College side and plays flanker for Orrell Colts.

VOLLEYBALL

A 'getting to know you' final

By Paul Harrison

Two one-sided semi-finals have resulted in a familiar sounding final of the Royal Bank Cup on May 11 at Crystal Palace.Speedwell Rucanor, from Bristol, the cup holders, defeated their local rivals, Redwood Lodge, 3-0 (15-4, 15-8, 15-5) last weekend and meet Capital City Brixton in the final. Capital City proved too good for Radio Treat Rockets, of the second division, who went down 3-0 (15-8, 15-3, 15-5).

Both teams have been regular visitors to the final in the eighties, Speedwell having won three times (1981, 1983 and 1985) and Capital City twice (1980 and 1984). They also make a habit of meeting each other in the final.

Before then, however, the destination of the league title must be decided. Capital City will have no say in that this season but Speedwell will, and this weekend at that. Level at the top of the table with Polonia, they go to their rivals tomorrow knowing that victory will probably wrest the league title from the Poles.

Polonia have a game in hand, but Speedwell have dropped fewer sets. In Polonia's favour is home advantage and the fact that they won in Bristol two weekends ago, catching Speedwell cold. "We are a naturally attacking side, and for us to beat Polonia we have to attack," Steve Nuth, the Speedwell coach, says. "And that is what we are going to do. We have to win."

Polonia hustled Speedwell out of that attacking game in the first match, forcing them to concentrate on blocking. No doubt the videos Polonia watched of Speedwell in action helped too. "Watching videos helps other teams more than it helps us," Nuth says, "because we change our game more from season to season, while most teams, including Polonia, still play the same way as they did last season. They might be better at it, though."

This season, for the first time, the top four teams in the Royal Bank League go forward to a Superbowl. Speedwell and Polonia are sure to be present, and Dragonara Leeds, who have come through this season, should take third place. It looks also as though Capital City will be strong enough to hold off the challenges for fourth.

Dooley's new post

Derek Dooley, the former Sheffield Wednesday player and manager, was appointed managing director of Sheffield United yesterday. He will be in day-to-day control at Bramall Lane with the duties of chief executive. Dooley, now 56, scored 52 goals in 61 games for Wednesday

YACHTING

Fastnet designers can still learn

By John Nicholls

Last year's Fastnet race, although nowhere near as rough as that of 1979, was nevertheless held in extremely severe conditions. Of the 222 yachts that started from Cowes on August 10, only 70 of them reached the finish at Plymouth a few days later. However, unlike 1979, when several yachts foundered and 15 people lost their lives, only one boat required outside assistance last year and no one was seriously hurt.

An enquiry conducted by the Royal Ocean Racing Club and the Royal Yachting Association in 1979 revealed several shortcomings in yacht design and a lack of experience of some crews that contributed to their problems. Subsequent rule changes have lead to better qualified crews and many detailed improvements to yacht design and construction.

However, a RORC analysis of the reasons for retirement from last year's race show that while crews now seem more aware of potential danger in heavy weather, designers and builders still have some lessons to learn.

The most common reason given for retiring was caution rather than boat failure. Many crews became decidedly apprehensive during the gale they experienced on the second day of the race (Sunday) and retired there and then. Not only was it rough at the time, but more, or worse, was promised and the majority of the boats that retired for prudent reasons did so on the second day.

It is interesting to note that no matter what the size of the yacht if she continued through the Sunday, she was most likely to finish the race. The majority of the voluntary retirements were by yachts in classes three, four and five, the smallest and generally the most uncomfortable in the fleet.

It is probable that at that stage of the race, the nearby havens of Torbay, Dartmouth and Plymouth were an incentive to seek shelter and then perhaps retire. To quote from the retirement declaration of one class three crew: "Sailed into Dartmouth with a view to continuing race when weather improved. Heard of so many disasters on radio, that it seemed more fun to sail to St Vaast. It was.". Another from class five said: "Sailed with one watch leader short, skipper damaged arm, ribs, and leg being pitched across boat into guard rails. Two crew sick. Wind west force 9, progress down course minimal. Forecast showed no signs of improvement for 48 hours. It wasn't fun any more".

The RORC comment on this section of the analysis is brief and to the point. "It is satisfactory that many yachts retired on the grounds of prudence. Whilst offshore yacht racing gives pleasure and excitement to many, it is for most participants a hobby".

Although the retirement race in classes one and two was lower, it was still more than 50 per cent in each case. In these classes the weather was less significant, partly because the 52 Admiral's Cup yachts were included within this group. Theirs was both a series and a team event, so there was more incentive to finish the race. Only one Admiral's Cup boat is recorded as retired because of the weather, the other 23 none causes of retirement were due to hull or gear failure including 8 dismastings.

Of this dismal record the RORC comment: "It would be expected that the Admiral's Cup fleet would be designed, constructed and equipped to the highest standards. Even taking into account that the designs would be biased towards speed producing properties rather than ultimate strength, a retirement rate of nearly half must be considered as the disappointment."

Damage to sails was mentioned more often than any other non-weather factor throughout the fleet. In conjunction with a high proportion of mast and rigging failures (many of them admittedly due to inexpert handling) it would appear that there is still much to be learned about producing and using reliable rigs.

Modern hulls using lightweight composite materials are still giving cause for concern. It is perhaps significant that when the age of a yacht is considered the lowest retirement rate (excluding Admiral's Cup) was by yachts over 10 years old. The winners of classes four and five were launched before 1971 while second and third places in class three were taken by boats of 1976 vintage.

Yacht design has always progressed to a large degree by trial and error. Clearly it is still doing so and one hopes the lesson of the Fastnet have been learned to produce a new generation of more seaworthy boats.

While the boat failures in the Fastnet did not lead to tragedy, though the loss of Drum's keel came close, the same might not be true of the Whitbread Round the World Race. There has been similar, but more alarming failure of hulls and rigs among the 15 entries that are now on their third leg of that race. Several masts have had to be replaced (twice on two boats) and at each port of call there has been extensive rebuilding of some of the newer hulls. One hopes they have an easy passage round Cape Horn.

Swansea aid

The Bulgarian national team have joined the fight to save Swansea City from closure after agreeing to play a match at the Vetch Field on March 6 as part of their build-up for the World Cup in Mexico. They will also play Norwich City on March 4.

HOCKEY

Five Cup places available

By Joyce Whitehead

The GMC Home Countries international B tournament, which starts today at Lancashire CCC's headquarters at Old Trafford, has extra significance for England. After the tournament five of their side will be selected to complete the England squad for the World Cup in July.

In the B side are last year's England captain Linda Carr (Lancashire) and Kim Gordon (Leicestershire), who have both been capped for England many times, and Caroline Rule (Leicestershire) who is now fit again after injury. There are other players who were in the England squad on thedisastrous tour of Australia last summer, and all will struggle to regain their places.

Also competing in the tournament are Canada. They, like England, Scotland and Ireland are preparing for the World Cup. They have had a week in Ireland where special arrangements were made for them to play four matches on grass as opposed to artificial turf

On Tuesday the North of England gave Canada a shock. They played on grass at Brooklands and beat them 4-0.

There will be four matches today and tomorrow and two on Sunday morning. Play starts at 10 am with Scotland v Wales then Canada v England, Ireland v Scotland and the last match at 1415 Canada v Wales.

SKIING

Putting Are on the map

Are, Sweden (Reuter) — After a two-week break, the men's World Cup resumes here today at the start of a programme of two downhill races, three slaloms, one super-giant slalom, one giant slalom and two combineds in 10 days.

This Swedish resort stages Scandinavia's first World Cup downhill tomorrow on a new $4 million (£2.72 million) course which the organizers hope will greatly improve Sweden's chances of hosting the 1992 Winter Olympics.

Today's race was postponed from Wengen, Switzerland, because of bad weather. A second downhill follows on Saturday and Are's eighth World Cup event concludes on Sunday with a slalom.

The 3,090-metre piste, with a vertical drop of 863 metres, has proven very demanding in training. "This piste is much more physically demanding than a flat downhill where you can cruise at 130 kilometres per hour," the 1985 World Cup downhill champion, Helmut Höflehner, of Austria, said. "There are so many little bumps that you really have to fight your way through."

MODERN PENTATHLON

UK act t pay for drug test

By Michael Coleman

In a novel attempt to er cate the drug cheats from m ern pentathlon, Britain is offer to pay for all the drug t after the shooting event in t August's world champions in Montecatini, Italy.

Usually, only seven are te to see whether competitors h resorted to depressants or o banned substances to ste their shooting arms. These the three who have achieved highest score on the pistol ra plus four others picked at dom.

The offer now from British Modern Pentath Association is to conduct t on all 66 men competitors to bring the samples back London for checking. "We willing to carry out these there, using our equipment, to have the analysis of samples conducted at Che College, which is the best testing centre in the wo James Haddon, general retary of the association, sai

All of this would be at Br expense, the Sports Cou having given its approval. would remove the one obs previously raised against m extensive tests, namely the A round figure of $50 (£35) been mentioned each test.

One big reason for this Br initiative is the anger frustration felt at the deci made by the UIPMB, the w governing body, last Augus revert to five-day internati contests from this season, each sport allotted a full The four-day formula, with shooting and the cross cou race held on the same day, thus been tried for only years.

By holding the two sport close together, shooters inhibited from taking de sants. Any profit gained on shooting range was more annulled by their slow-bea hearts and sluggish legs on cross country course, it was

Many followers of the s regarded the U-turn to a day formula as an open in tion to the drug cheats to back into business. The Br initiative, especially the offe conduct the tests in Lon could foil them. Ill-feeling the handling of the drug c samples at the Los An Olympic Games still linger

The championships Montecatini this August wil the first time in the sport, b junior and senior men and women. I understand the Br offer of 66 tests could jus easily apply to 22 tests competitors in each of the f events.

TENNIS

Fulwood's arrival on the Davis Cup scene may be as spare man

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Jack Fulwood, who made encouraging debut for Britain in last month's BASF European Cup competition, has been included in Britain's Davis Cup team for the Davis Cup first round tie with Spain at Ashelford from March 7 to 9. Fulwood's role may be no more flattering than that of "spare man". Jeremy Bates, Jeremy Lloyd and Colin Dowdeswell have all represented Britain back in the first division and will probably be given a chance to keep them there. For the time being, however, Fulwood has taken precedence from Stephen Shaw or Andrew Bale as the next man in line.

Fulwood, aged 22, comes from Risley, between Derby and Nottingham. He was recruited into the European Cup team because he happened to make the healthiest candidate at the report-me. For much of the match Fulwood justified his selection but he and his coach, Jeremy Bradnam, agreed with the National team manager, Paul Hutchins, that a change of diet would make Fulwood stronger and fitter.



Drysdale: semi-retired

At some time in the next fortnight, probably at Telford, Fulwood and a Loughborough University dietician will discuss a new regimen. Britain's latest recruit will doubtless have to adjust his palate and his stomach to more vegetables and less chocolate. Hutchins hinted yesterday that he was not yet confident enough to risk Fulwood in three matches (two singles and a doubles) in a Davis Cup tie.

Hutchins would not commit himself further but should either Lloyd or Bates be unfit the singles vacancy is likely to go to Fulwood rather than Dowdeswell. Should anything happen to disrupt the Lloyd-Dowdeswell doubles team, Bates would be a stronger candidate than Fulwood; but Lloyd and Dowdeswell cannot have much longer to go as a Davis Cup pair - and Bates and Fulwood formed a promising team in the European Cup event.

All these permutations are pleasantly confusing. "I see this as a well-balanced team giving me a choice of players for both the singles and the doubles", Hutchins said yesterday. "John will take the major role with Jeremy, Colin or Nick available to fill the second singles spot. I also have two established doubles pairings".

Christian Bergstrom (Sweden) and Morten Christensen (Denmark) will contest today's singles final of the fourth tournament in the Lawn Tennis Association satellite series, at Queen's Club, West Kensington. Yesterday Bergstrom beat Grant Connell (Canada) 7-6, 7-5 and Christensen had a 6-4, 6-7, 7-6 win over Robin Drysdale (Britain), who saved three match points in the second set and, in the third, led 5-2 and at 5-4 had two match points

The purpose of a satellite series is to provide young professionals with international competition and a chance to earn money and - more important in the long run - to establish themselves in the world rankings. Next week's concluding "masters" event at the David Lloyd club, Wallington, will be restricted to the 16 most successful players in the four preceeding tournaments. The most highly ranked player at Wallington will be Jorgen Windahl (Sweden), who has almost broken into the top 200.

In the absence of Britain's seven leading players the domestic challenge has been led, strangely, by Andrew Castle of Taunton, aged 22, who recently completed a four-year course at Wichita State University and will now play full-time, and Drysdale, aged 33, who is semi-retired but reckons his duties as a coach have done his game no harm. "I think a bit more about what I am doing", he said yesterday.

Drysdale has been in and out of Britain's rankings since 1976, once rose to fourth, and had a respectable record in the indoor team championship that is now known as the European Cup. His chief concern at present (not that one would have guessed it from the good tennis he played yesterday) is to find financial backers for his indoor centre at Bracknell.

Numerically, Britain and Sweden will dominate next week's first round draw at Wallington, with players from Canada, Denmark, France, the Netherlands, South Africa and the United States completing the field.

SNOOKER

Meo plans to be as good as his word

By Sydney Friskin

Tony Meo, who said after winning the English Professional Championship at Ipswich that he considered himself as good as anybody, has his chance to prove it when he meets Cliff Thorburn, of Canada, in the fifth round of the Dulux British Open at Derby which resumes today after a rest day.

The left-handed Meo raced to a 5-0 victory over Steve Newbury on Wednesday night, winning the first frame with a break of 47 and going on to compile breaks of 41 and 44 in the fourth. Newbury, who beat Dene O'Kane, of New Zealand, 5-3 in the third round, had an aggregate of only 104 points in five frames against Meo.

Alex Higgins, who also reached the fifth round on Wednesday with a 5-1 victory over Mike Hallett, set up a meeting with Peter Francisco, of South Africa, nephew of Silvino Francisco, last year's winner.

Peter Francisco, who achieved an impressive 5-3 victory over Steve Longworth on Tuesday night, hopes to make up for his uncle's failure.

In the first match this afternoon Bill Werbeniuk, of Canada, takes on Rex Williams, the chairman of the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association, who defeated Roger Bales 5-4 on Wednesday.

In the evening McLeod faces Terry Griffiths, whose fourth round victory over Neal Foulds was preceded by two successes which have restored his confidence. He regained the Welsh title by beating Doug Mountjoy 9-3 at Abertillery and won the Belgian Masters at Ostend with a 9-7 victory in the final over Kirk Stevens, of Canada.

The line-up for the last 16 in the Open is: Murdo McLeod v Terry Griffiths, Willy Thorne v Kirk Stevens, John Virgo v Eddie Charlton, Tony Meo v Cliff Thorburn, Steve Davis v John Campbell, John Parrott v Jim Wych, Peter Francisco v Alex Higgins, Bill Werbeniuk v Rex Williams.

FOURTH ROUND: T Meo bt S Newbury 5-0 (65-14, 59-18, 63-29, 108-4, 55-39); A Higgins bt M Hallett 5-1 (35-65, 73-7, 71-6, 94-25, 81-41, 60-39).

ENTERPRISING BRITTAIN PLANS TILT AT KENTUCKY DERBY



Bold Arrangement (centre), seen here landing Sandown's Solario Stakes, heads for the Kentucky Derby

Racing's Mr Ambassador

Clive Brittain, the Newmarket trainer, needed a shade over two minutes one glorious afternoon in New York to discover that the United States really is the land of opportunity.

At the Aqueduct racetrack early last November his equine super-star, Pebbles, triumphed in the top event on Breeders' Cup Day, capturing the hearts of the American public and collecting a cool $900,000 (£775,862) of their currency.

Three weeks later, Brittain nearly pulled off another audacious coup, right under the nose of Uncle Sam, when Jupiter Island came with a storming finish to miss second place by a nose in the Washington International at Laurel. The seven-year-old's owner-breeders, Lord and Lady Tavistock, received a handsome £36,000 for that brave effort.

Brittain, smitten with his success, now plans to become the first English trainer to land America's most prized event, the Kentucky Derby, traditionally run in the carnival atmosphere of Churchill Downs on the first Saturday in May.

Bold Arrangement, who as a juvenile won last season's Solario Stakes at Sandown before being disqualified from second place behind Bakharoff in Doncaster's Futurity Stakes, is the horse singled out for the job.

However, his 52-year-old trainer is not leaving anything to chance. Bold Arrangement will first have his classic test in the nine-furlong Blue Grass Stakes at Keeneland on April 24.

"I really feel Bold Arrangement will be better suited to American racing. He can go fast early on, has a good turn of finishing speed, and will stay 10 furlongs over there. I've also no fears about his acting on the dirt, or handling the left-hand bends," Brittain said.

The stable's hardy warrior, Jupiter Island, heads for the sunny climes of California for his first run of the season. His objective is the San Juan Capistrano Handicap, run on turf, at Santa Anita on April 20.

It is also quite conceivable, granted that he stays fresh and sound through his summer campaign, that the St Paddy horse will end his racing career with a crack at the Melbourne Cup in November. "If they handicap him in Australia with a fair weight and we can synchronize the travelling times then we will seriously consider running him," Brittain said.

For several years, with his ready smile and infectious optimism, Brittain was regarded as racing's Mr Nice-Guy. Now through his enterprising successes abroad he has found international respect as a trainer.

Pebbles, of course, is very dear to him. Now a five-year-old, she won the 1984 1,000 Guineas and last July earnt a special place in the record books by becoming the first filly to break the male stranglehold on Sandown's historic Eclipse Stakes.

Although her Breeders' Cup Turf victory was very exciting, her breathtaking performance when cruising past Slip Anchor in the Dubai Champion Stakes at Newmarket, which preceded her New York triumph, gave Brittain more satisfaction. "Coaxing her back to her best after a 3½-month lay-off was most rewarding, Brittain added.

Pebbles, it appears, does take some knowing. She rarely puts her best foot forward on the gallops, and will only participate if her constant companion, Come On The Blues, leads her. She thrives on a part diet of Guinness and eggs, but in the true tradition of a temperamental actress, reserves her best performance for the opening night.

Because of the advance publicity, New Yorkers knew all about Pebbles and her boyfriend, Come On The Blues, who was allowed to lead her down to the start of the big Aqueduct event. They took to Pebbles so warmly that she was installed a red-hot favourite, and she did not let them down, holding off Strawberry Road in a barn-storming finish.

Pebbles will return to the States in the Autumn for another crack at the Breeders' Cup Turf, and she may also compete, earlier, in the Arlington Million at Chicago. Her first appearance in this country will be delayed until July when she attempts to repeat her Eclipse win.



Brittain: top money-earner

Brittain and his wife, Maureen, returned to Newmarket at the weekend after spending a fortnight's holiday in Florida and on the West Coast, their first break for four years. Brittain collected an award for Pebbles as best filly on grass at the grand Eclipse prize ceremony in Miami, receiving his award from the actor, John Forsythe (Blake Carrington of Dynasty). "The Americans certainly know how to lay it on. It really was a lavish affair, the trainer said. But while he was in the States, Brittain took the trouble to visit the Santa Anita racetrack in Hollywood, in preparation for Jupiter Island.

The trainer, relaxed and confident, was busy supervising part of his 100-plus string, who were hack cantering on the wood chip all-weather surface at his Carlburg stable yesterday. He quickly pointed out Supreme Leader, who was never right again after jarring himself when fourth in the Derby. "He has put on 90 kilos this winter and could be a major force in the big mile events this year," Brittain said.

Despite the snowy surround, two horses actually enjoyed themselves in Brittain's equine swimming pool from which handlers had to skim off the ice from the surface. "No, it isn't cruel," Brittain said. "They have a much higher body temperature than humans, and their metabolism is different too. "The horses, instead of shivering when they came out, looked positively invigorated by their dip.

Clive Brittain was the highest European money-earner in 1985. His domestic earnings totalled £435,736, while Pebbles and Jupiter Island, who in October won Longchamp's £31,805 Prix du Conseil de Paris, boosted Brittain's overseas winners' tally to £807,667.

His overall total of more than £1.2m surpassed even the champion trainer, Henry Cecil's domestic record total of £1,148,189, which included four classic winners. Surely, Brittain's magnificent achievements abroad will serve as a salient example to other trainers that they should broaden their horizons. As Brittain succinctly said: "The prizes are there. All you need is the confidence to go and get them."

Dick Hinder

RUGBY LEAGUE

Lydon hopes to get his first senior game

By Keith Macklin

Despite suffering an eye injury, Wigan's reserve team against St Helens on Wednesday, Joe Lydon, Britain's world-record £100,000 signing from Widnes, is expected to play his first senior game for the club in Sunday's postponed first division game at Halifax at Central Park.

He is expected to return, also with an eye injury, is Greg Dowling, the Australian front row forward. Although Lydon played on the field with a badly bruised eye, five stitches were inserted. Dowling has been out for seven weeks after suffering lime light when he was tackled in the dark in the match at Widnes. Gary Hyme from pitch markings damaged his eye.

Stuart Wright, the Widnes and Great Britain winger, who has only played a handful of reserve team games since he broke his collar bone 13 months ago, could make a surprise comeback against Rochdale Hornets in the Challenge Cup second round on Sunday.

Widnes, who recently sold Lydon because they were hard up and facing closure through debts, are now planning to raise funds for artificial turf and a £500,000 stadium

Rugby League authorities are watching closely the fate of a proposal from the Welsh Rugby Union to the International Board to review the game's regulations regarding payments to players

ICE HOCKEY

Why choice of six of the best makes sense

By a Special Correspondent

When it was decided to allow the top six premier division sides to qualify for the Heineken championships many critical voices were raised. "Why six?" they asked. "Why not just let the top four go to Wembley for the semi-finals?"

One good reason for making it six is the prolonged interests in the regular season. Tomorrow afternoon, for instance, BBC Grandstand cameras will be in the North-East of England for Cleveland Bombers against Nottingham Panthers: a game that would have no significance were play-off qualification confined to the top four teams.

As it is, with the two sides eighth and seventh respectively, both have a play-off chance. Panthers' is more realistic; the Bombers can be excused for thinking that they are not entirely out of the picture.

Another reason for retaining the current qualification system is the chance of an occasional upset. Last season, against all the odds, Streatham Redskins knocked out Durham Wasps and 700 Durham supporters turned up at Wembley without a team to cheer. The Wasps have never allowed the Redskins to forget that and will no doubt be trying to embarrass them

Murrayfield Racers face a testing weekend – away to Fife Flyers and at home to Dundee Rockets.

Michael Coleman on a skating story of success and stress

The price of seeking pairs perfection

Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor are still counting the cost of the nine weeks they spent in Toronto, Ontario, last year learning the secrets of top-level competition in the company of Canada's leading pairs skaters.

"Each month the bills keep coming in, with the interest mounting," Naylor said. "We'll pay off the lot as soon as we can with the British grants we hope to obtain each year."

The bills will not be getting smaller. On the strength of their time in the American education, the pair won the British senior title and made a successful first appearance at last month's European championships in Copenhagen and will in three weeks' time be pitched against the world's best at Geneva.

"It all happened so fast, and we've only been together for 18 months," said Miss Peake, who was a former standard solo skater before Naylor broke a pairs partnership and invited her to join him.

Both are aged 20 and belong to the same Nottingham club that boasted Torvill and Dean. There the similarity ends. Without being unkind, pairs skaters have about as much in common with ice dancers as competitive partners have with their synchronised counterparts.

Pairs skaters are viewed with a respect that borders on awe by their colleagues on ice. It is demanding enough being a solo performer blending triple rotation speed, multi-position spins and intricate footwork into an error-free artistic, musical entity; but performing in harmony with the movements of a partner who is often out of contact, and even out of sight, would appear to be bordering the impossible.

Even when one contemplates the dangers inherent in the high lifts and throw jumps peculiar to pairs skating, it is not surprising that few have summoned up the courage to embark on this branch of the sport.

Miss Peake, who does the lifting, says she falls all the time. "I've been picked up and offered. "But we haven't dropped anything yet." In pairs, unlike the woman who is thrown, she is required to land up to three times in the air before landing backwards. Both Miss Peake and Naylor include in their programmes such throw jumps in their 2½-minute free programmes: the triple salchow, in which the lady takes off backwards from the ice on the inside edge; the double axel, which is executed backwards, outside; and the triple axel (forward, outside).

They slipped up with the salchow at their European debut, where they finished tenth. Miss Peake taking a fall. "We went into it at the wrong angle," she said, "each pulling against the other." In the two-and-a-quarter minute short programme contest the day before, an apparent lack of speed forced her to seek hand support on the surface and in the death spiral, where the woman is rotated while virtually parallel with the ice.

These were the only blemishes in two carefully prepared and balanced programmes which are being polished and refined for the Geneva showpiece.

Top pairs, such as Yelena Valova and Oleg Vasilyev, the Soviet world and Olympic champions, perform synchronized triple solo jumps and solo double axels too, but, as Naylor points out, it takes months to perfect these. "We can each do triple salchows: that's one thing, but doing them side by side is another. We shall work on them for next year."

Another task before Geneva is to acquire the speed so obviously lacking at Copenhagen. "It's power skating we need to perfect, the ability to cover the ice at speed and with deep edges like the Russians and North Americans," Miss Peake said. "We're doing it now before training, building up speed, solo and together. It helps to build up our legs."

No less spectacular than the throws are the lifts in which the woman is raised in a vertical or horizontal position while her partner rotates on the ice below her. The couple plan a "no-hands" star lift for Geneva with Miss Peake held aloft, parallel to the ice, perched on her left hip.

"At Copenhagen I held on to Andrew with one hand on his shoulder," she explained. "I shall try to do it so I don't hold on and hopefully we'll get higher marks."

In other lifts, Miss Peake is left to admire the stadium roof. Did she not find such aerial activity unnerving? "I don't feel at all afraid. On the contrary, it's quite easy because I take a rest up there!"

For prime pairs, the next step after mastering the 20 and more physical elements in a free programme is to fuse them into a balanced act, even into the ice theatre to which the dancers, particularly those from the Soviet Union, have moved successfully.



Cheryl Peake and Andrew Naylor: ice is high

Bradford blank

Yorkshire will not play at Park Avenue, Bradford this summer. The scheduled fixtures, against Somerset in the John Player Special League and against Warwickshire and Glamorgan in the Britannic Assurance county championship, will be transferred to another ground, probably Headingley. The Bradford club's appeal for extra financial help for urgent repairs will be considered by Bradford corporation next week.

● COLOMBO (Reuter) – The medium-pace bowler Jayananda Warnaweera will make his Test debut for Sri Lanka in the first Test match against Pakistan starting in Kandy on Sunday.

TEAM: L R D Mendis (capt), S Wettimuny, S A R Silva, P A de Silva, R L Dias, A Ranatunga, R J Ratnayake, A L F de Mel, J R Ratnayake, E A R de Silva, J Warnaweera.

Close shave for tired Buck House

By Our Irish Racing Correspondent, Dublin

Buck House, the supposed good thing for yesterday's P. Z. Mower Chase at Thurles, was 2-1 on favourite as the race commenced, but was being offered at 2-1 against by the bookmakers seconds after he and Rainbow Warrior had flashed past the winning post locked together.

The camera showed, however, that for once the bookmakers' eagle-eyed scouts had misread the result and that Buck House had, in fact, held on to win by a short head.

Despite the small field this £12,500 event had produced a marvellous spectacle of fast jumping as last year's winner, Rainbow Warrior, attempted to lead all the way.

Approaching the turn for home Buck House moved up to head Rainbow Warrior and when he opened up a three-length lead between the last two jumps the issue appeared in safe keeping. His rider Tommy Carmody was not so confident, though, and after he had glanced over his shoulder and seen Rainbow Warrior still in touch he had to work hard on the leader. In the closing stages Buck House was very tired and Rainbow Warrior came back again to join him 100 yards from home. Thereafter the lead alternated stride by stride and Buck House just edged in front on the line.

Both first and second will be in action at Cheltenham where Buck House, already a course winner over hurdles, goes for the Queen Mother Two-Mile Champion Chase, while Michael Cunningham runs Rainbow Warrior in the Gold Cup.

Paddy Osborne plans to run Deep Idol in the Waterford Crystal Supreme Novices Hurdle rather than the Sun Alliance Hurdle at the big meeting. This decision was taken after Deep Idol had won a hotly contested Purcell Exports Hurdle, a race sponsored by the owner of Buck House. At one stage Shannon Spray, hitherto untested in three facile hurdle wins, was fully 15 lengths in front but the lead diminished rapidly early in the straight where Deep Idol and the strong favourite, Knockelly Castle, both made their efforts.

There was nothing to choose between the trio at the final hurdle, but Deep Idol was the one to quicken away and left Shannon Spray three lengths behind at the post.

Punchestown the sole survivor

Racing at Doncaster tomorrow has been abandoned owing to frost. The course also stage a meeting on Monday and that fixture hinges on an inspection at noon tomorrow or Sunday, depending on the weather forecast.

There will now be no racing in Britain tomorrow with Kempton Park and Stratford-on-Avon earlier casualties. The total of lost meetings now stands at 87. The only meeting to be staged will be at Punchestown in Ireland where no problems are expected.

With Doncaster already in doubt for Monday hopes are not high for the day's other meeting, at Leicester. Clerk of the course Nick Lees reports the course frozen and will hold an inspection sometime today.

Sponsorship on the increase

Fears that racing sponsorship would disappear with the reduction in TV coverage last year look to have been unfounded. Latest research shows that, in spite of programming cuts, sponsorship almost doubled from £2.5m in 1983 to £4.5m in 1985.

In percentage terms, televised racing has held up well in spite of fierce competition from other sports. Snooker is now the most televised sport, with 398 hours last year, but racing still holds third place behind cricket.

Racing's coverage represents almost 12 per cent of all televised sport and that is an increased share following four years in which it dropped from the leading sport with 17 per cent to just over 11 per cent in 1984.

● Six contractors are now in competition for the rights to supply Britain's 10,000 betting shops with live television pictures of racing via satellite.

Cheltenham acceptors

CHELTENHAM GOLD CUP: Ashley House, Burrough Hill Lad, By The Way, Castle Andrea, Combs Ditch, Contradeal, Cybrandian, Dawn Run, Earls Brig, Forgive 'n' Forget, Galway Blaze, I Haventalight, Observe, Rainbow Warrior, Righthand Man, Run And Skip, Ryaman, Very Promising, Von Trappe, Wayward Lad, Western Sunset, West Tip, Young Driver, You're Welcome. To be run on Thursday, March 13.

WATERFORD CRYSTAL CHAMPION HURDLE: Aonach, Arasrun, Ask, Bajan Sunshine, Bob Tisdall, Boreima, Bruges, Chrysaor, Cima, Corporal Clinger, Currrew, First Bout, Flarey Sark, Fredcomet, Gala's Image, Gaye Brief, Glazapta Again, Harry Hastings, Herbert United, Humberside Lady, Jamesmead, Joy Ride, Kessiln, Little Bay, Marc Millar, Muqadar, Nebris, Nohaimdun, Out Of The Gloom, Pridaux Boy, Ra Nova, Robin Wonder, Sabin Du Loir, See You Then, Sheer Gold, Southernair, Stans Pride, Terryash, The Joker, Tom Sharp, Voyant. To be run Tuesday, March 11.

QUEEN MOTHER CHAMPION CHASE: Badsworth Boy, Beamwarn, Bobsline, Buck House, Captain Dawn, Desert Orchid, Duke Of Milan, Fer Bridge, Fearless Imp, Freight Forwarder, Hazy Sunset, Jo Colombo, Johns Present, Kathies Lad, Left Bank, Little Bay, Norton Cross, Our Fun, Pan Arctic, Peter Anthony, Roadster, Somerled, State Case, St William, Very Promising. To be run Wednesday, March 12.

DAILY EXPRESS TRIUMPH HURDLE: Abbey Glen, Agra Knight, Aguada Beach, All Is Revealed, Archipenko, Arnhall, Arrasus Mead, Avebury, Babstad, Baby Sigh, Ballyarry, Baracora, Bassim, Bayram, Beech Road, Bel Course, Bollin Palace, Borowoe, Brunico, Capistrano Prince, Chance Ina Million, Cockalorum, Colonel James, Comandante, Commander Robert, Copse And Robbers, Corston Springs, Court Appeal, Dark Raven, Dawn Spirit, Dundalk Bay, Duplicator, El Galileo, Emir Sultan, Fib, Fleet Special, For A Lark, Friends For Ever, Glenmore Captain, Golden Fox, Goodman Point, Green Spider, Grundy Lane, Gwyn Howard, Hansard, Harrington Sound, Head Of The House, Hello Paddy, Hendrik, Hobournes, Home County, Homeley, Honeyman, Imperial Bid, Intuition, Jamie's Lady, Junior Citizen, Kentucky Guest, Kofil, Kuwait Mutar, Leon, Light Dackson, Linfast, Little Sloop, Lough Derg, Lucky Baloo, Majestic Ring, Martian Baby, Miss Magnetism, My Dominion, Night Warrior, Nimbleash, None Too Dear, Northern River, Ocean Life, Orarion, Paddyboy, Paddystown, Penalty Kick, Polygonum, Predination, Prime Oats, Private Audition, Recollect, Roark, Sailors Reward, San Carlos, Sarsella Boy, Santopadre, Sarena Tanks, Shropshire Lad, Solar Cloud, Son Of Ivor, Stepaside Lord, Sterne, String Player, Supreme Charter, Svolich, Swinhoe Croft, Sylvan Joker, Tangognet, Testimonial, That's Your Lot, Thawnorn, The Allied, The Footman, The Italian, The Musical Priest, The Yompier Toda Force Avanti, Tresidder, Trial Period, Trojan Prince, Troy Fair, Tudor Season, Velos, Vice Admiral, Visitate, Wardaga, Warwick Suite, Watford Gap, Wide Boy, Yale, Zeebrugge. To be run on Thursday, March 13.

Eleven jockeys suspended

Eleven jockeys, including Britain's Bruce Raymond, have been temporarily suspended until Sunday after anti-corruption agents in Hong Kong made a series of arrests linked to alleged malpractices. The former Sussex-based trainer, Derek Kent, has also been suspended.

An official of the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) said a number of people were detained in early-morning raids. The Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club said that the arrests followed a six-month investigation in which it co-operated with the ICAC.

"A number of jockeys, trainers, owners, one club employee and some other persons not directly involved with the club are helping the ICAC with their inquiries," an official jockey club statement said.

● If the weather relents, Worcester will stage the first running of the John Francome Chase on Wednesday.

Results from Thurles

Going: yielding

2.0 (2m hdle) 1. The Musical Priest (Mr P A Deegan, 9-4 fav); 2. Winning Mary (7-1); 3. Pollenia (10-1). 12l, 8l, 14 ran. NR: Derrymore Boy, Miss E Purcell. Tote (to 10p unit): 32p: 15p, 19p, 23p. CSF (to £1 unit): £25.21.

2.30 (2m 4f cn) 1. Buck House (T Carmody, 1-2 fav); 2. Rainbow Warrior (3-1); 3. Fair is Fair (8-1). Sh hd, 10l. 5 ran. M Morris. Tote: 14p: 12p, 19p. Straight forecast: 23p. CSF: £2.67.

3.0 (2m hdle) 1. Deep Idol (N Madden, 9-2); 2. Shannon Spray (6-1); 3. Knockelly Castle (Evans fav). 3l, 1½l. 11 ran. NR: Harrington, P D Osborne. Tote: 63p: 16p, 21p, 13p. CSF: £36.09.

3.30 (3m cn) 1. Attitude Adjuster (Mr T Walsh, 6-4 fav); 2. Ah Wheisht (7-4); 3. Brown Pebble (16-1). Nk, 15l. 7 ran. NR: Neville's Delight. M Morris. Tote: 25p: 14p, 16p. DF: 33p. CSF: £5.06.

4.0 (2m 4f hdle) 1. Stikit's Brother (M Sleator, 7-1); 2. Basement (20-1); 3. Barna Beauty (11-4); 4. Catsrock (6-1). Dancing Guy 5-2 fav. 2l, ¾l. 16 ran. NR: Calm Calmbach, D H Clyde. Tote: £1.14: 42p, £5.08, 21p. CSF: £153.19. Tricast: £454.84.

4.30 (2m flat) 1. Good Old Charlie (Mr P Deegan, 5-4 fav); 2. Dowpack (3-1); 3. Billy's Bridge (7-1). 2l, 8l. 22 ran. NR: Carpenterstown. Miss E Purcell. Tote: 27p; 14p, 17p, 25p. CSF: £11.25.

5.0 (2m 2f cn) 1. Glen Of Hawthorn (T Morgan, 6-1); 2. Wonder Run (9-4 fav); 3. Zangal (12-1). 2l, 5l. 18 ran. NR: Joy Travel, W Harney. Tote: 85p; 26p, 16p. £1.00. CSF: £26.60.

OFFICIAL SCRATCHINGS: Daily Express Triumph Hurdle: Head Of The House. All engagements (dead). Quarterback, Veils Of Rain, Zulu Dawn, Halcyon The Great.

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

Motoring by Clifford Webb

How the Avant weathered the storm

A 15.8 ft estate car weighing almost 1½ tonnes with a powerful 2.2 litre fuel-injected, turbo-charged engine would seem to be the most unlikely vehicle in which to tackle a 180-mile journey on roads treacherous after a heavy overnight snowfall. That was my lot recently – yet within the first few miles I was happily counting my blessings.

While others were sliding around or stuck altogether I got through with minimum effort. And when a Vauxhall Carlton suddenly shot out of control into my path I slammed on the brakes and swerved around it with such little drama that the driver never knew how close he came to being torpedoed amidships.

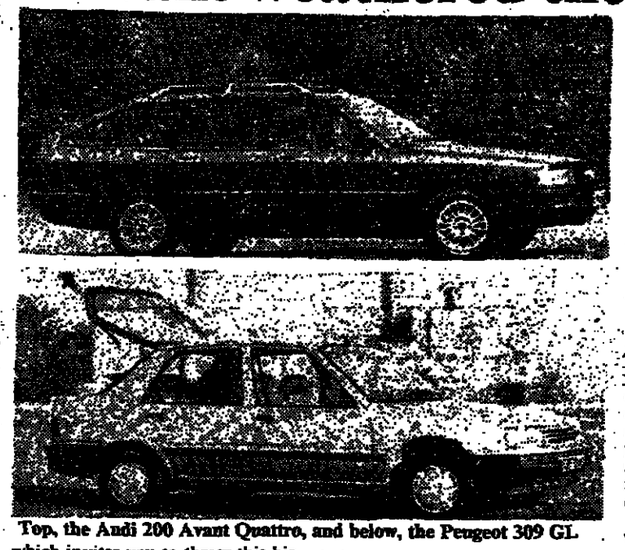
By now it will be obvious that this was no ordinary estate car. Indeed,ordinary" is the last adjective one would choose to describe the remarkable Audi 200 Avant Quattro. To begin with it does not look like any other estate car. Perhaps a better description would be a luxury saloon with estate car tendencies. Only the extra large pair of windows behind the rear seats reveals its true identity.

But good looks, however appealing, are the last things drivers think about in such abysmal conditions. It was the Avant's hidden assets which were put to the test that day – four wheel drive and Bosch ABS anti-lock braking. Between them they must count for some £4,500 of the Avant's £25,307 price tag.

Yet for some 95 per cent of the car's life in the hands of the average driver they will never be needed. Most drivers are unable to take advantage of the extra traction available with 4 x 4. A large proportion of accidents with Audi Quattros must be caused by drivers trying to find the car's limit through bends. It goes faster and faster and still retains limpet-like road holding. What they do not realize is that when a 4 x 4 comes unstuck it happens entirely without warning and because of the very high speed invariably means a serious accident.

ABS on the other hand can be tested regularly to reassure yourself that when an emergency arises you know how the car will react. Choose a quiet road on a rainy day. Check you rear view mirror and at about 60 mph hit the brakes hard. You will immediately feel a light pumping action under your foot as the electronic sensors prevent the wheels locking. It is this automatic "cadence" braking which keeps enough rubber in contact with the road to enable you to retain control through the steering wheel.

Towards the end of the test weather conditions improved to the extent that I was able to use more of the smooth-flowing power of the 182 bhp turbo charged engine. The ratios of the very slick five-speed gearbox are well matched to its torque curve. The result is a very swiftly-responding combination which invites you to throw this big car around like one half its size.



Top, the Audi 200 Avant Quattro, and below, the Peugeot 309 GL

I was disappointed however by the poor field of vision through the rear window. It is very restricted by the unusually high boot-line and an airdam mounted three-quarters of the way down the steeply sloping glass hatch.

The 200 Avant is very lavishly equipped with an electric sunroof, fully automatic airconditioning, electrically operated sports-type seats and door mirrors, cruise control, additional long distance driving lights, warning buzzer for lights or radio left on and car assisted steering with lots of "feel" built in.

Vital Statistics.

Model: Audi 200 Avant Quattro.
Price: £25,307.
Engine: 2144cc 5 cylinder injected-turbo charged.
Performance: 0-60 mph 8.2 seconds, maximum speed 140 mph.
Official Consumption: Urban 20 mpg, 56 mph 35.3 mpg and 75 mph 29.1 mpg.
Length: 15.8 feet.
Official Insurance: Group 8.

Peugeot's Hopes

Lying in bed recovering from a particularly virulant bout of flu is a very depressing time. With every joint in the body aching and a head as big as a bucket, even the most minor problems assume catastrophic proportions. This week when I was at my lowest ebb I struggled to recall something nice to lift the depression. The picture I conjured up was of a light green Peugeot 309. But surely with all the exotic machinery at my command I could do better than a run-of-the-mill French rival for the Escort, even if it is being assembled at Ryton near Coventry?

Not so. From the moment I sat behind the wheel of the 309 GL I was at home. Everything clicked ... the instant starting with a manual choke (very rare today), a driving position which required little adjustment to make me comfortable and in control, a rapid warm-up and the cleanest pick-up on a carburettor equipped engine for a very long time.

The steering without power assistance was light enough on the road to satisfy most women drivers although it became a bit of a handful when manoeuvring in a confined space.

The 309's most satisfying asset is its brakes. They are without doubt the best I have encountered on a mass-produced family car. The slightest pressure on the pedal brought a reassuring response, not the brutal kind you get on some Citroens which threaten to hurl you through the windscreen when you thought you were only braking gently, but the kind that responds to increased pressure progressively and swift. I have seldom felt so confident and safe.

The 309 which began to appear in showrooms a fortnight ago is available with a choice of 1.1, 1.3 and 1.6 litre engines. But nowhere on the car inside or out are you told which engine it has. For some reason Peugeot do not like labelling their cars with the engine size. The only Peugeot which breaks this rule to my knowledge is the magnificent 205 GTi and that is restricted to a small red painted panel behind the rear window.

But the 309 carries all Peugeot's hopes of becoming established in the British fleet market and the one thing fleet buyers insist on is clear identification of the degree of equipment, trim and engine size

How else will the works manager be able to show colleagues that he ranks higher in the pecking order than a "rep".

I pointed out this ommision to Geoffrey Whalen, managing director of Peugeot Talbot UK at the cars launch in December.

Within 24 hours he had discussed it with his sales team. The outcome, according to reliable sources, is that within a short time 1.3 and 1.6 models will carry their engine size on the boot.

The model I tested last week was the GL 1.6 with a five-speed gearbox. This is one of the group's latest engines featuring an alloy cylinder block and head with an overhead camshaft. I have already remarked on the exceptionally clean pick-up and this allied to the smooth way the power is delivered makes it surprisingly quick. It is also one of the quietest cars in its class.

The 205 Supermini hatchback did wonders for Peugeot. The 309 five-door hatchback draws upon the same basic design but provides the passenger space and luggage room the 205 cannot. If Ryton maintains the high standard of the model I tested when production reaches its target of 1,000 per week the 309 could be just as big a winner.

Vital Statistics.

Model: Peugeot 309 GL
Price: £6,385
Engine: 1580cc.
Performance: 0-62 mph 12.5 seconds, maximum speed 106 mph.
Official Consumption: Urban 33.2 mpg. 56 mph 55.4 mpg and 75 mph 42.2 mpg.
Length: 13.3 ft.
Insurance: Group 4.

Go fast debut

A newcomer making a much delayed debut in Britain was launched at the Belfast Motor Show this week. The Renault 5 GT Turbo has been on sale in France for nearly a year and was so successful that exports had to wait their turn. It has the same 1.4 litre power unit as the Renault 11 Turbo giving the smaller car a top speed of over 125 mph and 0-60 mph time of only 8 seconds.

Among the changes made to cope with some 115 bhp is a new four-bar rear suspension layout. It also acquires disc brakes all round with the front pair ventilated.

The "hot hatch" sector is one of the fastest growing with sales up from 14,000 in 1984 to 30,000 last year. Renault hope to sell 3,000 5 GT Turbos here this year but it is up against some pretty formidable competition in the Ford Fiesta XR2, MG Metro Turbo, Peugeot 205 GTi and the Fiat Uno Turbo. And at £7,360 the new Renault is the most expensive of the bunch.

GENERAL

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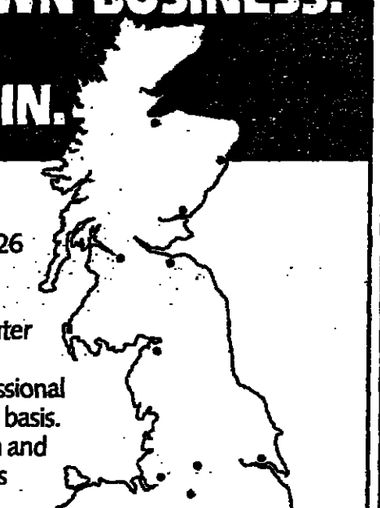
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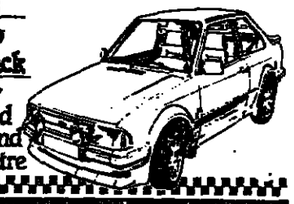
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This righteousness shall go before thee, the glory of the LORD shall be thy rereward Isaiah 58: 8

BIRTHS

BALL On 10th February 1986, to Deirdre (nee West Watson) and Frank, a son, Henry John Jamieson.

COWPER-COLES On February 18th 1986, at St George's Tooting, to Bridget (nee Elliott) and Sherard, a daughter, Minna Louise, a sister for Harry and Rupert.

EDWARDS - On 19th February 1986 at St. Thomas's Hospital, London, to Stevie (nee Muir) and John, a daughter.

ESSEX - On 10th February to Victoria (nee Thompson) and Skip, a son William David.

HEDDEN On 20th February 1986, at Harold Wood Hospital, to Leanne (nee Walker) and James, twins Joseph James and William John. May God Bless Them.

HILL - On 17th February 1986 at Queen Charlotte's Hospital to Diana (nee Weatherson) and Julian, a daughter Charlotte Isabel Dunlop.

JAMES - On February 18th in Aldershot to Morag (nee Standeven) and Peter, a daughter Elizabeth Cora Crossley.

KEYS - On February 19th to Helen and Richard, a daughter Emily Sarah at Cuckfield Hospital.

MADGWICK - On 13th February 1986 to Stephen and Julia (nee Carroll), a son James Stephen.

MYLNE - On February 19th at The Humana Hospital London, to Dawn and Nicholas, a beautiful daughter, Miranda Layla Rosalynn, a sister for AQ.

NEWTON - On 16th February 1986 to Karen (nee Hicks) and Anthony, a son Michael Robert. With thanks and all best wishes to the marvelous staff at U.C.H. and much love to Michael's grandparents.

NOAKES On 19th February 1986, to Judith (nee Durell) and Patrick, a daughter.

PETERSEN On February 10th in Enfield to Dianne and John, a daughter, Jessica Florence.

PITEL - On February 13th at Worcester to Helen and Nigel, a daughter Laura.

PRICE - On 16th February in Mountain View, California, to Liz (nee West) and Simon, a son David Anthony Lloyd.

ROSS RUSSELL On February 6th, to Maria and Rob at St Peter's Hospital, Chertsey, a daughter, Amy Louise, a sister for Hannah.

STEPHENS - On 16.2.86 to Geoffrey and Frances (nee Rendell) a daughter Charlotte Dorothy Jean.

WRAY 14th February to Lynette and Stuart (Jo'burg) a daughter Jessica.

DEATHS

ADAMS - On 9th February 1986, Joan aged 87 years, formerly of 7 Vincent House, Regency Street, London SW1. Cremation Friday 28th February 10.00am at Putney Vale Crematorium SW15. Enquiries to Farebrother Funeral Service, Tel: 01-546 3223.

ALLER - On February 18th peacefully in a nursing home, Winifred (Bunny) of Mount Noddy, Danehill, Sussex. Dearly loved sister of Marjorie and Dorothy. Funeral service at The Surrey & Sussex Crematorium, Worth on Tuesday February 25th at 2.30pm. Family flowers only.

BOLTON - Edith Phyllis. Dearly beloved mother of Paul, Angela, David and Malcolm. Peacefully at home on 18th February, in her 85th year, after a short illness. R.I.P. Funeral 27th February. Enquiries to Seaward & Sons, Tel: 01-886 6101.

DAWSON Peacefully on February 18th, Helen Mary, eldest daughter of the Late Reverend and Mrs Ambrose Pudsey Dawson in her 99th year, dearly loved aunt. Funeral at Winterton Parish Church, on Monday 24th February at 11.30am.

FRIDAY On 18th February 86, peacefully in hospital, Vivian Frederick, beloved husband, father and grandpa. Funeral service takes place at St Mary Bredin Church, Canterbury, on Wednesday February 26th at 2.30pm, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to The Linear Accelerator Appeal Fund, Westminster Hospital, Dean Ryle St, London SW1.

FRIPP Stephen Innes, peacefully on 17th February, at Queen Mary's Roehampton. Funeral service at Putney Vale Cemetery on Friday, 28th February at 2.15pm.

GARRY - On 18th February peacefully in hospital, fortified by the rites of Holy Church, Kevin, aged 49, beloved husband of Mary-Anne and most loving father of Helen, Dominique and Lucie. Requiem Mass at Farm Street Church, W1 on Monday 24th February at 10.45am followed by private funeral at Weasenham All Saints, Norfolk. No flowers please, but donations to the International Spinal Research Trust, Nicholas House, River Front, Enfield, Middlesex. R.I.P.

HARVEY - On 18th February 1986 suddenly and peacefully in Reading Margaret Winifred, wife of Bryan and mother of Liz. Funeral on Tuesday 25th February at St Barnabas Church, Emmer Green, Reading at 10.45am, followed by cremation. Flowers to Cyril H. Lovegrove of Trinity House, 114-116 Oxford Road, Reading. Tel 0734 52016 or donations to Arthritis & Rheumatism Council for Research, 8 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0HN.

HAYWARD BROWNE On 18th February peacefully in hospital, and in his 90th year, Lt. Col. Robert Francis Hayward Browne, Worcestershire Regiment. Loved husband of Jocelyn and father of Susan. Cremation private. No flowers by request, but if wished, donations to Worcestershire Regimental Association, Haswell House, Sansome Street, Worcester, WR1 1UH.

HOPCRAST On 19th February 1986, passed peacefully away in Beach House Nursing Home, Reading, Gladys Violet Mary Hopcrast, aged 97 years, formerley of Pangbourne, Berkshire. Funeral service to take place Thursday 27th February in St James The Less Church, Pangbourne at 2pm, followed by committal at Reading Crematorium. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, for the NSPCC may be sent to Cyril H Lovegrove, 114-116 Oxford Road, Reading.

LOCK On February the 18th, Dorothea Constance, aged 84, widow of Heathcote Lock of 20 Culford Mansions, SW3. Service at Mortlake Crematorium, SW14, at 12.00 noon, Friday, February 21st.

MANSFIELD Anthony Levoir on 18th February, peacefully at Farnham, beloved husband of Anne and father of Mary Jane, Felicity and James. Requiem Mass at 11.00am on Saturday 22nd February at St Joan's Church, Tilford Road, Farnham. No Flowers please, but donations, if desired to Cancer Research.

O'LOGHLEN - On February 17th, Elizabeth Mary aged 80. Requiem Mass at Our Lady of Victories Church, Kensington, Wednesday February 26th at 10.00am followed by private cremation. Family flowers only.

PAUL on February 18th 1986, Pat, greatly beloved by all her family. Funeral on Wednesday, February 26th at St Mary's Church, Ripley, at 10.30am. No flowers or mourning please.

PICCIOTTO On February 7th 1986 Gaston Picciotto of Rickmansworth, husband of Suzelle.

SIMON APW. On Thursday 20th February 1986 at home, Tim, beloved husband of Barbara and loving father, father-in-law and grandfather. The funeral will be held privately, and a memorial service will be announced later. Donations, in lieu of flowers, may be sent to the MacMillan Unit at St John and St Elizabeth hospital, Grove End Rd, London NW8.

SULLIVAN Sqdn Ldr Austin AFC, RAF (retired) on Feb 19th peacefully in hospital. Husband to Kay, father to Michele, Aidan and Martin. With him he takes the love and respect of his family and many friends. Requiem Mass at St Helen's, Westcliff, 10.00am on the 24th February, followed by burial service at the Sutton Road Cemetery, Westcliff.

THORBURN At Kingswood, Peebles, Scotland on Tuesday 18th February 1986, Alexander Scott Thorburn.

WHITNEY-COATES - On 15th February 1986 at Trinity Hospice, Clapham Common, Anthony Shaun aged 44, very dear husband of Sylvie, father of Oliver, much loved son of Barbara and brother of Gillian. Funeral Service at St. Peter's Church, Black Lion Lane, London W6 on Monday 24th February at 1.15pm, followed by cremation at Mortlake Crematorium. No flowers please, but donations, if wished, to Trinity Hospice, c/o Lucketts, 59 Glenthorne Road, London W6.

WINK - On February 16th 1986, at home in Oxford, Dr. Charles Anthony Stewart, B.M., B.Litt. Husband of Ossi and father of Julia, James and Helen. Dearly loved. A private service has taken place.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

MARTIN - A memorial service of thanksgiving for the life of the late Mrs Katherine Mary Martin will be held at the Church of St. John The Baptist, Billesdon at 12 o'clock on Saturday March 1st 1986.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHARITY —
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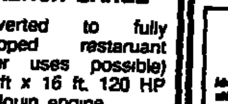
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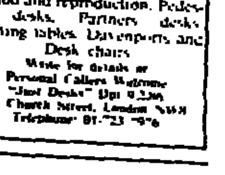
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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax AM.
6.50 Breakfast Time with Nick Ross in the London studio and Frank Bough in Portsmouth on the last day of Hospital Watch. Weather at 6.55, 7.25, 7.55, 8.25 and 8.55; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.57, 7.27, 7.57 and 8.27; national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 7.20 and 8.20; Lynn Faulds Wood's consumer report at 8.15; and a review of the morning newspapers at 8.37. Plus, improving Britain's football image; weekend shopping advice; gardening hints; and the latest pop music news.
9.20 Ceefax 10.30 Play School, presented by Chloe Ashcroft, with guest Iain Lauchlan **10.50 Ceefax.**
12.30 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Moira Stuart, includes news headlines with subtitles **12.55** Regional news. The weather details come from Ian McCaskill.
1.00 Pebble Mill at One, presented by Paul Coia, Marian Foster and Josephine Buchan. Among the guests is Pat Booth, a darling of the London gossip columnists in the Sixties who now lives in Palm Beach and has just published her first, steamy, novel **1.45 King Rollo.** For the very young (r) **1.50 Bric-a-Brac** (r) **2.00 Ceefax 3.52** Regional news.
3.55 Lay on Five, with Floella Benjamin at the South Aston Play Centre (r) **4.10 Heathcliff - The Cat** (r) **4.15 Jackanory.** Christopher Guard reads part five of Clive King's Stig of the Dump **4.30 Secrets Out.** Another edition of the odd hobbies quiz.
4.55 Newsround Extra. Paul McDowell. Part one of a report from Paul McDowell on the operation in January of last year to airlift Ethiopian Jews to Israel.**5.10 Grange Hill.** Episode 14 and Laura and Julia meet two Swedish boys at an all-night party (Ceefax)
5.35 Hospital Watch. Day five of the live documentary series from Queen Alexandra's and St Mary's Hospitals, Portsmouth.
6.00 News with Sue Lawley and Nicholas Witchell. Weather.
6.35 London Plus.
7.00 Wogan. Among the guests tonight are Sophie Loren, Jimmy Jewel, Nigel Kennedy and Jennifer Rush
7.40 Blankety Blank. Les Dawson's panel consists of Bella Emberg, Pete Murray, Linda Nolan, Bill Pertwee, Fiona Richmond, and Frankie Vaughan (r) (Ceefax).
8.10 Dynasty. Krystle is taken for a night out by her captor, Joel, and they bump into Alexis and Dex. Does this mean Krystle can escape at last? Her imposter hopes it is the case because she has been told to resist Blake's charms no longer. (Ceefax)
9.00 News with John Humphrys and Andrew Harvey. Weather.
9.30 Lovejoy. The entrepreneur takes a job at a new antiques market in Norwich owned by a client of Lady Jane's. Lovejoy is convinced that the man is a con-man and decides to expose him as such. (Ceefax)
10.20 Hospital Watch. An update of the final day's visit to the two Portsmouth hospitals.
10.55 Film: Busting (1973) starring Elliot Gould and Robert Blake. Los Angeles vice-squad officers, Keneely and Farrel, combat corrupt superiors in their war against the organiser of the city's prostitution and drugs network. Directed by Peter Hyams.
12.25 Weather.

TV-AM

6.15 Good Morning Britain, presented by Nick Owen and Anneka Rice. Exercises at 6.20; news with Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 6.35 and 7.34; cartoons at 7.24 and 9.02; pop video at 7.55; Nigel Dempster's gossip column at 8.17; Jimmy Greaves's television highlights at 8.34; Nanette Newman cooks a vegetable and meat roll at 8.45; Julie Brown interviews Depeche Mode at 9.10

ITV/LONDON

9.25 Thames news headlines.
9.30 For Schools: the natural history of a valley **9.47** How we used to live: problems in the coal mining industry **10.09** Maths: overlaps **10.26** Science: keeping cool **10.48** English: part one of Rosa Guy's, The Friends, set in Harlem **11.15** How baked beans are manufactured **11.27** The different ways animals move **11.44** Uses of computers.
12.00 Benny (r) **12.10 Rainbow.** Learning with puppets **12.30 Writers on Writing.** Richard Hoggart in conversation with Anthony Powell.
1.00 News at One with Leonard Parkin **1.20 Thames news,** presented by Tina Jenkins.
1.30 Film: The Magnet* (1950) starring Stephen Murray, Kay Walsh and William, now James, Fox. Comedy about a ten-year old boy and the adventures he gets up to after he steals a magnet. Directed by Charles Frend.
3.00 Mr and Mrs. Quiz game for married couples, presented by Derek Batey. **3.25 Thames news** headlines **3.30 Sons and Daughters.**
4.00 Rainbow. A repeat of the programme shown at 12.10. **4.15 Bill the Minder** meets a respectable gentleman **4.25 Emu's Pink Windmill Show,** with Rod Hull.
5.15 Blockbusters. Bob Holness with another round of the quiz game for teenagers.
5.45 News with Anne Leuchars.
6.00 The 6 O'Clock Show. Michael Aspel and his team take a look at the lighter side of London life.
7.00 Albion Market. Geoff finds the evidence of Louise's skulduggery (Oracle)
7.30 Murder, She Wrote: Broadway Malady. Jessica is on hand when a Broadway legend is lured back to the stage once again, this time with her daughter, in a musical produced by her son, only to be threatened with death. Starring Angela Lansbury.
8.30 That's My Boy. The first of a new series starring Molly Sugden as the possessive mother of the son she discovers after having him adopted at the age of one. In this episode she is distraught when her brother disappears but even more confused when he makes an appearance. (Oracle)
9.00 Auf Wiedersehen, Pet. A new series begins with the seven brickies re-united to help Barry in his hour of need before his wedding (Oracle)
10.00 News at Ten with Sandy Gall and Pamela Armstrong. Weather.
10.30 The London Programme. The Classroom Crisis: What the Teachers' Industrial Action Means for Education. Filmed mainly at Eltham Green comprehensive. Followed by LWT News headlines.
11.00 Snooker. Highlights of the day's play in the Dulux British Open from the Assembly Rooms, Derby.
12.15 Mirror Image. David Essex in concert at The Royal Albert Hall.
1.10 Night Thoughts



Harold Goodwin, Mollie Sugden: on ITV at 8.30pm

CHOICE

● One of the ways we can learn HOW TO SURVIVE THE 9 TO 5 (Channel 4, 10.30pm) is to get stoped in a transactional analysis group. Alternatively, there are the primal therapy groups where we can learn to scream properly. Professor Cary Cooper, being an American and therefore the product of a nation where enlightenment about work-related stress has a vocabulary all its own, must know what he is talking about. The un-American rest of us have to resort to guesswork as Professor Cooper shows us how to live longer by worrying less. One thing emerges sufficiently free of jargon to be understood by non-Americans. Many a worker's frown would be wiped away, many a progress chart would reach a new peak, many a heart attack would be avoided if only bosses would reprimand less and compliment more. "A thank you is often enough" says the professor. It would certainly satisfy the London bus-driver who says tonight that he would consider himself lucky to get one thank you a week,and can thank one-man operated buses for his own heart attack. Like many another nine-to-fiver these days,he can never be absolutely sure where the machinery in him ends and the flesh and blood begins.

● Also worth your attention tonight is Pabst's 1929 silent movie DIARY OF A LOST GIRL (BBC 2, 11.45pm), the first of two Louise Brooks films to be screened on consecutive nights (tomorrow night: *Pandora's Box*); and the first film in a new series of SPORTING CHANCE (BBC 2, 9.00pm) which subjects two pretty girls to the kind of danger I would not have thought a cheque could adequately compensate them for. Anneka Rice, whose vitality and fearlessness in *Treasure Hunt* is one of the highlights of my viewing week, goes pot-holing, and actress Leslie Ash takes a car round the Silvestone circuit at speeds that punish her tyres as much as they punish my nerves.

● ANY QUESTIONS? (Radio 4,8.45pm)promises political fireworks.Messrs Tebbit, Steel and Kaufman are among the panellists. Ann Leslie is no punch-puller,either.

Peter Davalle

BBC 2

6.55 Open University: Richard Hoggart - A Measured Life **7.20** Weekend Outlook. Ends at 7.25.
9.00 Ceefax.
9.35 Daytime on Two: basic Spanish conversation **9.52** Part six of The Boy From Space **10.15** Maths: sequences **10.38** The Vicars of Hessle. A true story set at the time of the Reformation **11.00** The Scots who came to live in Argyll during the sixth century **11.22** Why farmers in the United States are beginning to feel the pinch **11.44** Living away from home for the first time **12.05** Programme six of the series on the capabilities of microcomputers **12.35** Computers in education (ends at 1.00) **1.10** Science: electronics **1.33** The medical and ethical problems of test-tube births **2.00** What makes the class joker? **2.30** How a story becomes front-page news.
2.50 Ceefax.
5.25 News summary with subtitles. Weather.
5.30 Film: Clarence the Cross-eyed Lion (1965) starring Marshall Thompson, Betsy Drake and Cheryl Miller. The season of animal films for the family continues with this adventure about a doctor who runs an animal welfare study centre with his daughter on an African nature reserve. Directed by Andrew Marton.
7.00 Micro Live. Is there such a thing as artificial intelligence? Ian McNaught-Davis investigates; there is news of a computer that has just published its first book of verse; and Lesley Judd tries to tell the difference between man and machine.
7.30 Ebony. Juliet Alexander investigates the possibilities of a black Miss United Kingdom, springing from the increase in beauty and fashion shows for black women.
8.00 Travellers in Time. The story of the conquest of Mount Kamet by a British expedition in 1931 (r).
8.30 Gardeners' World. The Sunday Times gardening correspondent, Graham Rose, and Roy Lancaster visit Sizergh Castle Gardens in Cumbria which boasts a quarter-of-an-acre rock garden.
9.00 Sporting Chance. The first of a new series, presented by Anneka Rice. (see Choice)
9.30 One Man and His Dog. The Welsh heat of a new series, introduced by Phil Drabble from Buttermere.
10.10 Did You See...? Anna Carteret, Graeme Garden and John White pass comment on Hospital Watch, Artists and Models, and Boon.
10.55 Newsnight 11.40 Weather.
11.45 Film: Diary of a Lost Girl* (1929) starring Louise Brooks as a young woman whose seduction by her father's assistant leads her on to the road to ruin. Directed by G.W.Pabst. Ends at 1.25

CHANNEL 4

2.30 A Question of Economics. Zeinab Badawi and Peter Donaldson examine the position of the unions in post-war Britain. Do they really represent the views of the majority of their members?
3.00 Snooker. Dickie Davies introduces coverage of Dulux British Open from the Assembly Rooms, Derby.
4.30 Countdown. Yesterday's winner of the anagrams and mental arithmetic game is challenged by Tim Ramsay, a window cleaner from Witham in Lincolnshire.
5.00 Car 54 Where Are You?* Vintage American comedy series starring Joe E Ross and Fred Gwynne as a pair of incompetent but well-meaning New York policemen.
5.30 The Tube. Muriel Gray introduces a special report on the music scene in Nigeria. Among those performing are The Lijadu Sisters, Dr Orlando Owoh, Kollington and Femi Kuti. In the studio with Jools Holland and Paula Yates are Junior and Latin Quarter.
7.00 Channel Four news and weather.
7.30 Right To Reply. Are They Being Served? A discussion on television and the gay community. Among those taking part are Paul Bonner, Channel 4 controller of programmes; Robin Midgley, head of drama, Pebble Mill; Mark Finch; and Femi Otitoju
8.00 What the Papers Say. Paul Foot reviews how the Press has treated the week's news.
8.15 A Week in Politics, introduced by Peter Jay. Reports on the candidates in the Fulham by-election; and on the unfolding drama surrounding BL.
9.00 Brothers. Cliff believes he has met Mr Right when he is introduced to Dennis; while brother Joe, desperate for new female company, agrees to pose nude for a women's magazine. Joe gets cold feet at the last moment and persuades Cliff to take his place only to discover that the session photographer is Dennis.
9.30 Gardeners' Calendar. Among the tasks tackled tonight are pruning a fan-trained peach; cutting back an overgrown privet hedge; and transplanting shrubs. (Oracle)
10.00 Cheers. A distraught Carla beseeches Sam to help stop her 18-year old son getting married (Oracle)
10.30 How to Survive the 9 to 5. The third programme in the four-part series about avoiding stress at work. (Oracle) (see Choice)
11.20 Film: Petulia (1968) starring Julie Christie as the newly-wed woman who, after six months of marriage embarks on an affair with a divorced doctor. With Richard Chamberlain and George C Scott. Directed by Richard Lester.
1.15 The Rise and Fall of Emily Sprod. a Bob Godfrey cartoon. Ends at 1.25

Radio 4

5.55 Shipping **6.00** News. Weather **6.10** Farming **6.25** Prayer for the Day (s)
6.30 Today, incl 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News **6.45** Business News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.00, 8.00** News **7.25, 8.25** Sport **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.35** Yesterday in Parliament **8.50** Letters **8.57** Weather, Travel
9.00 News
9.05 Desert Island Discs. Ben Kingsley, the actor, talks to Michael Parkinson (r)(s)
9.45 Feedback. Chris Dunkley follows up listeners' comments about BBC programmes
10.00 News; International Assignment. BBC correspondents report from around the world
10.30 Morning Story: Semolino by H.A. Vachell
10.45 Daily Service (s)
11.00 News; Travel; Pillars of Society. A profile of The Daily Telegraph (r)
11.48 Natural Selection. Guest in a Nest
12.00 News; The Food Programme. Derek Cooper examines cheeses.
12.27 Fingers in the Jam. Songs about parents and children, adults and childhood (s) **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World At One: News
1.40 The Archers **1.55** Shipping
2.00 News; Woman's Hour.Includes a reportby Kay Alexander from the Foreign Exchange Dealing Room of an international bank in Birmingham. Also episode nine of Enquiry, by Dick Francis. Read by Hywel Bennett.
3.00 News; Jude The Obscure . Thomas Hardy's novel dramatized in 6 parts, with Michael Pennington as Jude, (4) The Usual Tragedy of Love (s)(r)
4.00 News. **4.05** Humour in Music. Leonard Pearcey talks to Dr Malcolm Arnold
4.30 Kaleidoscope.
5.00 PM: News magazine **5.50** Shipping **5.55** Weather
6.00 News; Financial Report
6.30 Going Places. Clive Jacobs and his team monitor the world of travel and transport
7.00 News
7.05 The Archers
7.20 Pick of the Week. TV and radio extracts chosen by Simon Bates (s)
8.20 Law in Action (Josua Rozenberg)
8.45 Any Questions? Norman Tebbitt, David Steel, Gerald Kaufman and Ann Leslie answer comments made by an audience in Bideford, Devon
9.30 Letter From America by Alistair Cooke
9.45 Kaleidoscope.Includes comment on The Apple Cart at the Theatre Royal, Haymarket, London, and Art and Time at the Barbican.
10.15 A Book at Bedtime: Lake Wobegon Days read, and written, by Garrison Keillor (5) **10.29** Weather
10.30 The World Tonight
11.00 Today in Parliament
11.15 The Financial World Tonight
11.30 Week Ending (c) Satirical review of the week's news
12.00 News; Weather **12.33** Shipping Forecast
VHF (Available in England and S. Wales only) as above except:**5.55-6.00am** Weather; Travel **11.00-12.00** For Schools: **11.00** Singing Together (s) **11.20** Conversation - Now **11.40** The Music Box (s) **11.50** See For Yourself. **1.55-3.00pm** For Schools:

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. **7.00** News.
7.05 Morning Concert: Grieg (In Autumn overture); Chopin (Ballade No 2, Op 38: Gavrilov,piano); Raff (Cello Concerto in D;Moray Welsh,cello); Sibelius (Finlandia); **8.00** News.
8.05 Concert (contd): Tippett (Divertimento on Sellinger's Round);Warlock (One More River,Lullaby: Varcoe,baritone); Suk (Serenade in E flat). **9.00** News.
9.05 This Week's Composers: Massenet (Death Scene, Don Quixote,with Chaliapin);Delibes (Sylvia, act one).
10.00 Schubert: Martin Roscoe (piano). Sonata in E, D 459; Sonata in A minor, D 784.
10.50 Langham Chamber Orchestra. Cimarosa (I traci amanti overture): Diamond (Rounds); Haydn (Symphony No 44)
11.35 Helena Dose and Eva Pataki;soprano and piano recital. Works by Stenhammar, Peterson-Berger, Rangstrom, Sibelius and Grieg (including Takk for ditt rad).
12.15 Midday Prom: BBC Philharmonic, with Lydia Mordkovich (violin).. Verdi (Sicilian Vespers overture); Bruch (Violin Concerto No 2). **1.00** News.
1.05 Musical Times Past: Victorian music-making. With Fritz Spiegl.
1.20 Midday Prom: Tchaikovsky (Symphony No 6).
2.10 Albion Ensemble: Malcolm Arnold (Three Shanties); Whettam (Quintetto Concertato); Holst (Wind Quintet, Op 14).
2.50 Gershwin: Piano Concerto in F (Pittsburgh SO).
3.25 Cricket: The First Test. West Indies v England.Other Radio 3 programmes switch to VHF until 6.30
6.30 Music for Guitar: Alexander Frauchi plays works by Weiss (Fantasia), Bach, and Koshkin (The Sleeping Doll).
7.00 A Famous Impasse: Graham Fawcett on the poet Adrienne Rich.
7.30 Nash Ensemble:part one. Hummel (Septet in C, Op 114,Military); Bartok (Contrasts).
8.20 A Tossed Coin. Ken Jones plays the old man in the story by Will Cowburn.
8.40 Nash Ensemble: part 2. Haydn (Flute Trio in D, H XV 16); Martinu (La revue de cuisine).
9.20 Berwald and Tubin: Berwald (Sinfonie capricieuse); Tubin (Concerto for balalaika and orchestra).
10.15 The Harlequin Years:Roger Nichols on musical life in Paris after the Great War. Tonight: from 1919 to 1920.
11.00 Nocturne: Delius (Paris:song of a great city); Hahn (song cycle Venezia, with Rolfe Johnson, Lott, Richard Jackson); Mozart (Serenade in D, for four orchestras, K 286).
11.57 News. **12.00** Closedown.
VHF only: Open University, 6 35am to 6.55. **3.25** Bull Virginal Music: played by Robert Woolley. **4.00** Choral Evensong,from Canterbury Cathedral. **4.55** News. **5.00** Mainly for Pleasure (Jeremy Siepmann) presents a selection of recorded music...

Radio 2

News on the hour (except 8.00 and 9.00pm) Headlines 5.30am, 6.30, 7.30 and 8.30. Cricket: West Indies v England 1.15pm, 2.02, 3.02, 4.02, 5.05, 6.02, 6.45 (mf only), 9.55, 11.00. 4.00am Colin Berry (s) 6.00 Ray Moore (s) 8.05 Ken Bruce (s) 10.30 Jimmy Young Legal problems answered by Andrew Phillips 1.05pm David Jacobs (s) 2.00 Gloria Hunniford (s) 3.30 Music All The Way (s) 4.00 David Hamilton (s) 6.00 John Dunn (s) 7.30 Friday Night is Music Night (s) 9.30 The Organist Entertains (Nigel Ogden)(s) 9.55 Sports Desk 10.00 Mooney's Monday Magazine 10.30 Black Magic (Stanley Black) 11.00 Stuart Hall 1.00am Jean Challis (s) 3.00-4.00 A Little Night Music (s)

Radio 1

News on the half-hour from 6.30 am until 9.30 pm and at 12.0 midnight. 6.00 am Adrian John 7.30 Mike Read 9.30 Simon Bates 12.30 Newsbeat (Frank Partridge) 12.45 Gary Davies 3.00 Paul Jordan 5.30 Newsbeat (Frank Partridge) 5.45 Bruno Brookes 7.30 Andy Peebles 10.00-12.00 The Friday Rock Show (s) VHF RADIOS 1 & 2 4.00 am As Radio 2 10.00pm As Radio 1 12.00-4.00am As Radio 2

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-four Hours: News 7.30 Jazz from Europe. 7.45 Merchant Navy Programme. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections 8.15 English Song 8.30 Music Now 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Breakfast at Tiffanys. 10.00 News Summary.10.01 The Classic Albums. 10.15 Merchant Navy Programme 10.30 Business Matters. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 In the Meantime. 11.25 A Letter From Northern Ireland. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Jazz For the Asking. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-four Hours. 1.30 John Peel. 2.00 News Summary. 2.01 Outlook. 2.45 Letterbox. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 A Matter for Debate. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Science in Action. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 A Letter From Northern Ireland. 5.15 Sarah and Company. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 9.15 Music Now. 9.45 Foreign Affairs. 10.00 World News. 10.09. The World Today. 10.25 A Letter From Northern Ireland. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 From The Weeklies. 11.30 Talking About Music. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News About Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 About Britain. 12.45 Recording of the Week. 1.00 News Summary. 1.01 Outlook. 1.30 The Classic Albums. 1.45 Letterbox. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review Of The British Press. 2.15 Network UK. 2.30 People and Politics. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News About Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Transatlantic Quiz. 4.00 Newsdesk. 4.30 That's Trad. 5.45 The World Today. All times in GMT.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC1 WALES 5.35pm-6.00 Wales Today. 6.35-7.00 Hospital Watch. 12.25am-12.30 News and weather. SCOTLAND 6.35pm-7.00 Reporting Scotland. 7.00-7.40 The Scottish Broadcasting Awards 1985. 7.40-8.10 Tomorrow's World. 10.55-11.25 Left, Right and Centre. 11.25-1.15am Film: Adam's Woman (1970). 1.15-1.20 Weather. NORTHERN IRELAND 5.35pm-5.40 Today's Sport. 5.40pm-6.00 Inside Ulster. 6.35-7.00 Hospital Watch. 12.25am-12.30 News and weather. ENGLAND 12.00-12.30pm The Allotment Show (North-East only). 6.35-7.00 Regional news magazines.

CHANNEL As London except: 9.25am-9.30 For Openers. 1.20 Channel News and weather. 1.30 Mr and Mrs. 2.00 Arcade. 2.30 Hotel. 3.30-4.00 Glenroe. 5.12-5.15 Puffin's Pla(i)ce. 6.00 Channel Report followed by Tastes of China. 6.30-7.00 That's What you think! 7.30-8.30 The Fall Guy. 10.30 Jane's Diary 10.35 The Moviemakers 11.15 Snooker 12.15am Weather, Close

TYNE TEES As London except: starts 9.25-9.30 North East News 1.20 North East News and Lookaround 1.30 Film: Expresso Bongo (Cliff Richard) 3.25-3.30 North East News 5.15-5.45 Joanie Loves Chachi 6.00 Northern Life 6.30-7.00 What Would You Do? 7.30 That's My Boy 8.00-9.00 The Fancy 10.32* Extra Time 11.15 Snooker 12.15* Three's Company 12.20 Close

YORKSHIRE As London except: 1.20 Calendar News 1.25 Help Yourself 1.30 Film: And The Same To You* (Brian Rix, Tommy Cooper) 2.55 Home Cookery Club 3.00 Wish You Were Here...? 3.25-3.30 Calendar News 5.15-5.45 Dreams 6.00 Calendar 6.30-7.00 Diff'rent Strokes 7.30-8.30 The Fall Guy 10.30 Snooker 12.15am That's Hollywood 12.45 Close

GRANADA As London Except: 12.30pm-1.00 That's Hollywood 1.20 Granada Reports 1.30 Film: What Changed Charlie Farthing? (Doug McClure) 3.20 Insects That Help Us 3.25 Granada Reports 3.30-4.00 The Young Doctors 5.15-5.45 The Beverly Hillbillies 6.00 Granada Reports 6.30-7.00 The Cosby Show 7.30-8.30 Knight Rider 10.30 Snooker 12.15am Film: The Man Who Could Cheat Death (Anton Diffring) 1.40 Close

ULSTER As London except: starts 9.25-9.30 The Day Ahead 1.20 Lunchtime 1.30 Film: The Perfect Woman (Patricia Roc) 3.00 Mr & Mrs 3.30 Personal View 3.58-4.00 Ulster News 5.15-5.45 The Beverly Hillbillies 6.00 Good Evening Ulster 6.20 Sportscast 6.40-7.00 Advice With Anne Hailes 7.30-8.30 Knight Rider 10.30 Witness 10.35-11.00 Barney Miller 12.25am News

ANGLIA As London except: 1.20 Anglia News and Weather 1.30 Film: The Count of Monte Cristo (1974) 3.25-3.30 Anglia News 6.00-7.00 About Anglia 10.30-11.00 Cross Question 12.15am The Message and the Music, Close

TSW As London except: 1.20 TSW News 1.30 Film: The Capture of Grizzly Adams (Dan Haggerty) 3.15 Home Cookery Club 3.25 The Young Doctors 3.57-4.00 TSW News 5.12-5.15 Gus Honeybun's Magic Birthdays 6.00 Today South West 6.30-7.00 What's Ahead 7.30-8.30 Magnum 10.32 Snooker 12.15am View From This Side 12.35 Postscript 12.40 Weather and Close

BORDER As London except: 1.20 Border News 1.30 Wish You Were Here...? 2.00 Film: The Flanagan Boy (1953) 3.30-4.00 The Young Doctors 5.15-5.45 Nature Trail 6.00 Lookaround Friday 6.30-7.00 Funny You Should Say That 10.30-11.00 Borderlive 12.15 News Summary 12.18 Close

SCOTTISH As London Except: 1.20 Scottish News 1.30 A Country Practice 2.30 On The Market 3.00-3.30 Mr and Mrs 3.55-4.00 Crime Desk 6.00 Scottish News and Scotland Today 6.30 Report 7.30 Benson 8.00-8.30 The Benny Hill Show 10.30-11.00 Ways and Means 12.15 Late Call 12.20 Close

S4C 1.00 Countdown 1.30 Family Ties 2.00 Taro Nodyn 2.20 Stori Sbri 2.35 Cipolwg 2.55 Interval 3.00 Snooker 4.30 World of Animation 4.50 Y Corachod 5.00 Misus Potpupur 5.30 The Tube 7.00 Newyddion Saith 7.30 Pobol Y Cwm 8.00 Caryl. News Headlines 8.30 Fel 'Na Mae! 9.15 Film: Bad Blood (1981) 11.20 Ghosts In The Machine 12.15 A Week In Politics 1.00 Close

CENTRAL As London Except: 1.20 Central News 1.30 Film: The Grace Kelly Story - (1983) 3.15 Magic, Magic 3.25-3.30 Central News 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes 6.00-7.00 Central News 7.30-8.30 Knight Rider 10.30 Snooker 12.15am Film: The Railway Murders - (1976) 1.45 Close

GRAMPIAN As London except: starts 9.25-9.30 First Thing 1.20 North News 1.30 That's Hollywood 2.00 The Yellow Rose 3.00 Mr & Mrs 3.25-3.30 North Headlines 6.00-7.00 North Tonight and Weather 7.30-8.30 Knight Rider 10.30-11.00 Crossfire 12.15am News Headlines, Weather 12.20 Close

TVS As London Except: Starts 9.25-9.30 TVS Outlook 1.20 TVS News 1.30 Mr & Mrs 2.00 Arcade 2.30 The Baron 3.27-4.00 TVS News followed by Glenroe 5.12-5.15 TVS News Headlines 6.00 Coast to Coast 6.30-7.00 That's What You Think! 7.30-8.30 The Fall Guy 10.30 Facing South 11.15 Snooker 12.15am After Midnight - Elvis Costello 12.40 Wanted: Dead or Alive 1.15 Company, Close

HTV WEST As London except: 1.20 HTV News 1.30 Film: True as a Turtle (John Gregson) 3.25-3.30 HTV News 5.15-5.45 Mr Smith 6.00 HTV News 6.30-7.00 The Good Neighbour Show 7.30-8.30 Knight Rider 10.30 Your Say 10.45 The Year Was... 1980 ... 11.15 Snooker 12.15am Weather, Close

HTV WALES As HTV West except: 6.00-7.00 Wales at Six 10.30-11.00 The Dream That Kicks 11.00-12.15 Snooker

ENTERTAINMENTS

ADELPHI 836 7611 or 240 7913/4 CC 741 9999/836 7358/379 6433. Grp Sales 930 6123 CC BOOKING TO XMAS '85 EXCLUSIVELY WITH First Call ON 240 7200 24 Hr 7 days
LAURENCE OLIVIER AWARD WINNERS
BEST MUSICAL OF THE YEAR
EMN PETTEL SU POLLARD
ME AND MY GIRL
THE LAMBETH WALK MUSICAL
With FRANK THORNTON as 'Sir John'
Directed by Mike Ockrent
Nightly at 7.30 Mats Wed at 2.30 & Sat 4.30 & 8.00
"THE ONLY LIVE MUSICAL I'VE EVER ENJOYED" Spectator

ALBERY 01-836 3878. CC 379 6565. 379 6433. 741 9999. Grp Sales 930 6123. 836 3962 Mon to Fri 7.15 Sat 2 & 7.30
ACTOR OF THE YEAR Olivier & Standard Awards 85
ANTONY SHER'S LAST SIX WEEKS IN TORCH SONG TRILOGY
Rupert Frazer and Belinda Sinclair Miriam Karlin
"BRILLIANTLY FUNNY" Obs

ALDWYCH 01 836 6404/0641. CC 379 6233. Grp Sales 930 6123 CC 24 hrs. inc. Sun 741 9999. 1st Call 24 hrs. CC 240 7200
LAST 3 PERFS Ton't 7.30 Tomor 2.30 & 7.30
BONNIE LANGFORD JOSS ACKLAND
in J M Barrie's PETER PAN THE MUSICAL
"Please, please, please if you have one spare evening.. spend it at the Aldwych Theatre" Daily Mail
ENDS TOMORROW

ALDWYCH 01-836 6404/0641. CC 379 6233. First Call 24 hr CC 01-240 7200. Eves 7.30 Sat 4.0 & 8.0
PREVIEWS FROM MARCH 6 ONE THIRD OFF ALL PRICES OPENS MARCH 13 at 7pm
FELICITY KENDAL PETER McENERY BENJAMIN WHITROW & PAUL SHELLEY in MADE IN BANGKOK
A new play by Anthony Minghella with Christopher Fulford & David Yip. Directed by Michael Blakemore. This play deals with all aspects of tourism in Bangkok and may not be suitable for young people.

AMBASSADORS West St. WC2 01 836 6111 CC 01 836 1171/741 9999. Group Sales 01 930 6123 Mon-Thurs at 8pm, Fri & Sat at 6pm & 8.45
THE THEATRE OF COMEDY COMPANY
DINSDALE LANDEN LIZA GODDARD JOHN QUAYLE CAROL HAWKINS STEPHEN LEATHERLAND and RAYMOND FRANCIS in WIFE BEGINS AT FORTY
A delightful comedy. Booking through June 1986. Sat eves sold out to end of March

APOLLO VICTORIA SS 828 8665 CC 630 6262 Grp Sales 930 6123 Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.0
STARLIGHT EXPRESS
"A MUSICAL THAT SURPASSES ANYTHING AROUND IN EVERY DIMENSION" D Exp
STARLIGHT EXPRESS Music by ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER Lyrics by RICHARD STILGOE Directed by TREVOR NUNN
APPLY DAILY TO BOX OFFICE FOR RETURNS
Concessions for O.A.P.S. until April at Tues Mats BOOKING TO SEPTEMBER

APOLLO THEATRE cc 437 2663/434 3598/9 24-hr 7 day cc bookings First Call 240 7200
PENELOPE KEITH MARK KINGSTON THE DRAGON'S TAIL
"Funny and Entertaining" City Limits.
New play by Douglas Watkinson Directed by Michael Rudman Eves Mon-Fri 7.30 Thurs Mat 3.0 Sats 5.00 & 8.15 Group Sales 930 6123
LAST FIVE WEEKS

ASTORIA THEATRE Box off info CC & Groups 01-734 4287. 01-437 8772
BEST MUSICAL 1985 The Times LENNON
A celebration of the life and music of John Lennon "WONDERFUL ... I REALLY LOVED IT" Bill Wyman "THEY COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT BETTER" Cynthia Lennon "I WAS UP THERE CHEERING WITH EVERY ONE ELSE AT THE END" Additional Mat run at 4.0 Evenings Tues to Sat 8.0 Mats Saturday & Sunday 4.0

BARBICAN THEATRE AS YOU LIKE IT Ton't 7.30. Tomor 2.00 & 7.30. THE PIT. NELLONS by Bernard Pomerance. Ton't 7.30 Tomor 2.0 & 2.30

COMEDY THEATRE Box Office 01 930 2578 First Call 24 hour 7 day CC bkgs 01 240 7200. Prev Wed Feb 26 Opens Thur Feb 27.
GLENDA JACKSON NIGEL HAWTHORNE in ACROSS FROM THE GARDENS OF ALLAH by CHARLES WOOD Directed by RON DANIELS Evgs Mon-Fri 8.0 Sat 5.30 & 8.30

COTTESLOE 'S' 928 2252 CC (National Theatre's small auditorium) Ton't 7.30, Tomor 2.30 & 7.30, then Feb 24 to 27 last perfs HAMLET by Shakespeare. Ton't 6pm Sunburnt Ears. 45 min platform perf all tkts £2.00

CRITERION S 930 3216 CC 379 6565/379 6433/741 9999. Grps 836 3962. Eves 8.00 Mat Thur 2.30 Sat 5.30 and 8.30
"BRITISH FARCE AT ITS BEST" D.Mail
The Theatre of Comedy Company ERIC SYKES TERRY SCOTT BERNARD BRESSLAW JAN HUNT HELEN GILL and GARETH HUNT RUN FOR YOUR WIFE!
Written and directed by Ray Cooney
Over 1200 perfs SIDE SPLITTING performance. "SHOULD RUN FOR LIFE" S Express. Seats £5 to £10.50. Special Theatre/Dinner Criterion Brasserie/stalls or circle tickets £17.25.

DOMINION THEATRE "TIME" HOTLINES 01-580 8845 Box Office 01 636 8538/9 or 580 9562/3 First Call 24hr 7 Day CC 836 2428 Grp Sales 930 6123.
OPENS APRIL DAVE CLARK's TIME THE MUSICAL CLIFF RICHARD AS 'THE ROCK STAR' THE PORTRAYAL OF 'AKASH' BY LAURENCE OLIVIER.

DONMAR WAREHOUSE 240 8230 CC 379 6565/6433. Until March 15 Eves 7.30 DRUID THEATRE CO from Ireland return with their latest stunning success BAILEGANGAIRE starring SIOBHAN McKENNA

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL 01-836 8108 01-240 9066/7 First Call 24 hour 7 day CC bkgs 240 7200
David Merrick's 42ND STREET
A SHOW FOR ALL THE FAMILY
Winner of all the best Musical Awards for 1984
voted BEST MUSICAL STANDARD DRAMA AWARDS voted BEST MUSICAL LAURENCE OLIVIER AWARD voted BEST MUSICAL PLAYS & PLAYERS LONDON THEATRE CRITICS AWARD
Evgs 8.0 Mats Wed 3.0 Sat 5.0 & 8.30 Group Sales 930 6123
NOW BOOKING UNTIL JAN 1987 Party Rates available

DUCHESS WC 2 836 8243. First Call CC 240 7200 (24hrs 7 days). Eves 8, Wed mat 3, Sat 5 & 8.30
GEORGE COLE "An exhilarating display of comic timing" Gdn in A MONTH OF SUNDAYS By Bob Larbey (Author of "A Fine Romance") "SHOULD NOT BE MISSED" BBC

GARRICK S. 01 836 4601 CC 379 6433 & cc 24 hr/7 day 240 7200. Grp Sales 930 6123 Evgs 8.0, Wed Mat 3.0; Sat 5.0 & 8
15TH HYSTERICAL YEAR LONGEST RUNNING COMEDY IN THE WORLD NO SEX, PLEASE- WE'RE BRITISH
2 hrs of non-stop laughter OVER 6.000 FANTASTIC PERFS

GLOBE 437 1592 First Call 24 Hr 7 Day cc 240 7200 Grp Sales 930 6123
ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER for THE REALLY USEFUL THEATRE COMPANY presents DENIS LAWSON JAN FRANCIS RONALD HOLGATE JOHN BARRON LEND ME A TENOR
A Comedy by Ken Ludwig. Directed by David Gilmore Eves & Mats Wed 3 Sat 4 NOW PREVIEWING First Night March 6 at 7.00

GREENWICH THEATRE 01 858 7755 Evenings 7.45 mat Sat 2.30. ONE OF US by ROBIN CHAPMAN with ANTHONY ANDREWS, DAVID HOROVITCH, IAN OGILVY and JENNY QUAYLE "A capital cast" D.Tel

HAMPSTEAD 720 9301. Ton't & Tomor 4.30 & 8.0 THE LIGHT ROUGH by Brian Thompson "This Comedy will give you something to think and talk about" D Tel "Extremely funny" T. Out "An excellent cast" BBC Kaleidoscope. "Very much a play for the 80's, written with eloquence and humour" S Times

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL Box Office & CC 01 930 9832
PETER O'TOOLE with BERNARD BRADEN DORA BRYAN MICHEAL DENISON MARIUS GORING GEOFFREY KEEN MOIRA LISTER BREWSTER MASON PAUL ROGERS DINAH SHERIDAN DAVID WALLER and SUSANNAH YORK in THE APPLE CART by BERNARD SHAW Evgs 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30

HER MAJESTY'S 930 4025, 930 6606 cc Hotline 741 9999. First Call 24 hr 7 day CC bookings 240 7200.
"A wonderful theatricality. Ideally tailored to our... thirst for adventure." D. Mail.
DONALD SINDEN in THE SCARLET PIMPERNEL
"A stunning adaptation .. an evening of .. theatre magic" D. Tel. "Superb comic performance." F.T. "The spectacularly tongue-in-chic melodrama." Mail on Sun. Evgs 7.30. Mats Wed & Sat at 3.0

LONDON PALLADIUM 437 7373 CC Hotline 437 2055. Ton't 7.30, Tomorrow 2.30 & 7.30 Party Rates available. "A terrific traditional Panto." The Star
DES O'CONNOR "Is devastating" The Star in CINDERELLA PAUL NICHOLAS
"Undeniably a dishy Prince Charming." Daily Mail. "and the entire production is an enchantment" D. Mail. Apply Box Office 01 437 7373. Group Sales 01 930 6123. First Call 24 hour 7 day CC bookings 01 240 7200. Seats available at the doors.
MUST END TOMORROW

LONDON PALLADIUM THE HIT MUSICAL COMEDY DIRECT FROM BROADWAY LA CAGE AUX FOLLES
Previews from April 22.First Night May 7. Telephone credit bookings now accepted on 437 7373, 437 2055, 734 8961. First Call 24 Hr 7 Day CC Bookings 240 7200 Box office now open for personal callers Grp Sales 930 6123

LYRIC HAMMERSMITH 01 741 2311 Eves 7.45, Wed Mats 2.30, Sats 4.0 & 7.45. DOUG LUCIE'S PROGRESS Directed by David Hayman Designed by Geoff Rose
LYRIC STUDIO Eves 8pm prompt! SATIE DAY-NIGHT by Adrian Mitchell. Directed by Richard Williams. Designed by Tom Phillips.

LYRIC THEATRE Shaftesbury Ave W1. 01 437 3686/7, 01 434 1050. CC 434 1550. 734 5166/7. First Call 24-hour, 7 day CC bookings 240 7200.
BERYL REID JEAN PIERRE AUMONT SIAN PHILLIPS GEOFFREY BURRIDGE & AMANDA WARING in LERNER & LOEWE'S MUSICAL GIGI
Directed by John Dexter "Greeted with tumultuous applause." Daily Express Evgs 7.30. Sats 5.0 & 8.15 Wed Mats 3.0 Group Sales 01 930 6123

LYTTELTON 'S' 928 2252 CC (National Theatre's proscenium stage) Previews Ton't, Mon 7.45, Tomor 2.15 (low price mat) & 7.45, Opens Tue at 7.00, Then Feb 26 & March 3 to 5 BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS by Neil Simon

MAYFAIR S CC 01 629 3036/741 9999 Mon-Thu 8 Fri/Sat 5.40 & 8.10
RICHARD TODD EPIC LANDER ANNETTE ANDRE THE BUSINESS OF MURDER
The hit thriller by Richard Harris "The best thriller for years" S Mir "A unabashed winner" S Exp "A thriller that achieves it all" "Sensational" Times
5TH GREAT YEAR OVER 2.000 PERFORMANCES

MERMAID THEATRE SHAKESPEARE WORKSHOPS Feb 24 - March 14 Mon - Fri at 11.30 am not Sat/Sun Phone Mermaid 236 5568 for details.

MERMAID CC (No Bkg fee) 236 5568/741 9999. CC(bkg fee) 24 hr/7 day 240 7200. Group Sales 01 930 6123. PREVIEWS ALL TKTS £6 Ton't & Tomor 5.0 & 8.0 (Opens Mon at 7pm) Subs Eves 8.0, Fri & Sat 5.0 & 8.0
NT's AWARD-WINNING PRODUCTION GLENGARRY GLEN ROSS By David Mamet Directed by Bill Bryden. This play contains STRONG LANGUAGE For other NT shows see National Theatre.

NATIONAL THEATRE, South Bank NATIONAL THEATRE COMPANY See SEPARATE ENTRIES UNDER OLIVIER, LYTTELTON, COTTESLOE
Excellent cheap seats day of perf, all three theatres from 10am RESTAURANT (928 2033) CHEAP EASY CAR PARK TOURS OF THE BUILDING (inc Back Stage), £2 Info 633 0880 NT ALSO AT THE MERMAID

NEW LONDON Drury Lane WC2 01 405 0072 CC 379 6433 Eves 7.45 Tue & Sat 3.00 & 7.45 THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER/T.S. ELIOT MUSICAL CATS
Grp Bookings 01 405 1567 or 01 930 6123 (Apply daily to Box Office for returns) postal applications now being accepted until August 30

OLD VIC. 928 7616, CC 261 1821 Grp Sales 930 6123. Eves 7.30, Wed, Mats 2.30, Sats 4.0 & 7.45. PRIDE & PREJUDICE

OLIVIER 'S' 928 2252 CC (National Theatre's open stage) Ton't 7.15. Tomor 2.00 (low price mat) & 7.15, then Feb 24 & 25 & March 27 & March 29 & 31 A CHORUS OF DISAPPROVAL. Previews March 5 to 12. Opens March 13 at 7.00. Then March 14 & 15 THE THREEPENNY OPERA.

PICCADILLY THEATRE. 437 4506 734 9535. CC 379 6565/741 9999. Grp Sales 836 3962/930 6123.
"A Brilliant New Musical" BBC
DAVID ESSEX FRANK FINLAY MUTINY!
"Tremendous Spectacle" Gdn. Evgs. 8,Mats. Wed 3 & Sat 5.

PRINCE EDWARD Box Office 734 8951 First Call 24 Hr 7 Days CC Booking 836 3464 Grp Sales 930 6123
CHESS THE MUSICAL Opens 14 May at 7pm

PRINCE OF WALES 01 930 8681/2 CC Hotline 01 930 0844/5/6. Group Sales 01 930 6123. K Prowse 01 741 9999. First call 24 hr 7 day CC bookings 240 7200; 01 379 6433. Evgs 7.30 Mat Thur & Sat at 3.0
The National Theatre of Great Britain Award Winning GUYS AND DOLLS Starring LULU NORMAN ROSSINGTON JANET DIBLEY ANDREW C. WADSWORTH THICK WILSON
"Wonderful Entertainment" S. Tel. "A CLASSIC of its kind." D. Tel.

QUEENS 01 734 1166, 734 1167 734 0261, 734 0120, 439 3849 439 4031. First call CC 24 hr 240 7200, Grp. Sales 930 6123. Evgs. 8pm. Wed. & Sat. Mats 3pm
MAGGIE SMITH EDWARD FOX "GIVE BRAVURA PERFORMANCES IN THIS SHARP, SARDONIC, ELEGANT COMEDY." S. Tms. INTERPRETERS
A new play by Ronald Harwood Directed by Peter Yates.

ROYAL COURT S. CC 730 1745. WOMEN BEWARE WOMEN by Thomas Middleton and Howard Barker, Directed by William Gaskill. Evgs. 8.0. Sat. Mats 4.0

SADLER'S WELLS 278 8916 First Call 24-hr, 7 day, CC 240 7200.
JEANNE The Musical London Premiere March 4
Book your seats at any Keith Prowse branch - No Booking Fee. ½ Price Previews from Sat.

ST MARTIN'S. 836 1443. Special CC No. 379 6433. Evgs 8.0, Tues. 2.45, Sats 5.0 & 8.10.
34TH YEAR OF AGATHA CHRISTIE'S THE MOUSETRAP
Sorry, no reduced prices from any source, but seats bkble fr £3.50

SAVOY. Box Office 01 836 8888 CC 01 379 6219,836 0479 Evgs. 7.45, Matinees Wednesday 3.0 Saturday 5.0 & 8.30
"MICHAEL FRAYN'S AWARD WINNING FARCE NOW IN ITS 4TH YEAR IS STILL ONE OF THE FUNNIEST THINGS IN TOWN." S. Times 16/2/86
CHRISTOPHER GODWIN STEPHANIE COLE HUGH PADDICK MICHAEL COCHRANE COLETTE GLEESON TIMOTHY CARLTON NOISES OFF Directed by MICHAEL BLAKEMORE

SHAFTESBURY 379 5399 CC 741 9999/379 6433 First Call 24 Hr 7 Day CC 240 7200 Grp Sales 930 6123
ROWAN ATKINSON THE NEW REVUE OPENS 7 MARCH
Red price Prevs 5 & 6 March Mon-Fri 8 Sat 5.30 & 8.30

STRAND. WC2 01 836 2660/4143/5190, Mon-Fri, Evgs 8.0 Mat Wed. 2.30 Sat. 5.30 & 8.30.
DAVID JASON "A natural comic, a joy to behold" Std. "Genuinely funny" F. Tms.
RICHARD VERNON LYNDA BELLINGHAM LOOK, NO HANS!
A comedy by John Chapman and Michael Pertwee, directed by Mike Ockrent. MUST END MARCH 8 owing to David Jason's TV commitments

VAUDEVILLE, WC2. Box Office and CC 01 836 9987/5645 First Call (CC 24 hrs) 01 240 7200. Eves 7.30 Wed Mats 2.30, Sats 5.00 & 8.15
JOANNA LUMLEY SIMON CADELL JANE ASHER MARCIA WARREN in NOEL COWARD'S BLITHE SPIRIT

VICTORIA PALACE.01 834 1317. Evgs. 7.30 Mats Sat only 2.45
MICHAEL CRAWFORD in BARNUM
BOX OFFICE NOW OPEN MONDAYS TO SATURDAYS 9.0AM TO 9.0PM FOR CURRENT BOOKING PERIOD UNTIL APRIL 26.
Box Office also opens Sundays 11 am to 7 pm for credit card telephone bookings only.

WHITEHALL. SW1 01 930 7765/839 4455. CC 01 379 6565/6433/741 9999. Grps 01 836 3962.
Red Price Prevs from Feb 26. Opens March 5 at 7.00. Mon-Fri 8pm. Wed.Mat 3pm. Sat 5pm and 8.30pm.
THEATRE OF COMEDY COMPANY BILL FRASER JAMES GROUT PATRICIA HAYES BRIAN MURPHY PATRICIA ROUTLEDGE PATSY ROWLANDS PRUNELLA SCALES ELIZABETH SPRIGGS TIMOTHY WEST
WHEN WE ARE MARRIED By J.B. Priestly Directed by Ronald Eyre

WYNDHAM'S 836 3028 CC 379 6565. 379 6433, 741 9999. Grp 930 6123, 836 3962. LAST 3 PERFS Ton't 8.0, Tomor 5.0 & 8.15
"A VERY FUNNY SHOW" Obs.
SUE TOWNSEND'S THE SECRET DIARY OF ADRIAN MOLE AGED 13¾
ENDS TOMORROW PRIOR TO NATIONAL TOUR

CONCERTS
BARBICAN HALL 628 8795 638 8891. Ton't 7.45. Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. Free ... ROSSINI. HANDEL, GRIEG, DVORAK.

OPERA AND BALLET
COLISEUM S 836 3161 CC 240 5258
ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA Ton't 7.30 MADAM BUTTERFLY. Tomor 7.30 LA BOHEME.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE. Covent Garden.WC2 01 240 1066/1911. ... Info 01 836 ... Mon-Sat 10 am-8pm. 65 amphi seats avail from 10am on the day. Tickets ... Ballet ...
THE ROYAL BALLET Ton't 7.30 Frankenstein, the Modern Prometheus/Consort Lessons ... Ballet ... info 01 240 9815
THE ROYAL OPERA Tomor 7.30 ... Thur 8.00 Salome. Wed 7.45 Il Barbiere di Siviglia.

SADLER'S WELLS 278 8916 JEANNE - The Musical. See "Theatres"

Iran says Iraq shot down passenger jet

From Robert Fisk, Tehran

A new and gloomy precedent appeared to have been set in the Gulf War last night when, with a combination of shock and anger, Iran claimed that Iraqi jets had shot down a Fokker Friendship passenger aircraft carrying members of the Iranian Parliament and Ayatollah Khomeini's personal representative to the Revolutionary Guards.

There was initial confusion as to the type of aircraft involved, with Iraq saying that it had shot down a military Hercules C130 plane, and the Iranians insisting it was a Fokker of the domestic airline, Asseman. They said several members of the Majlis (Parliament) had been "martyred" when it had been attacked by one or more Iraqi jet above Ahwaz.

Irna announced later that "by shooting down an Iranian passenger plane, the Baghdad rulers added a new page to the criminal file of the Iraqi regime in violating international conventions".

The Iranians are now presenting their latest offensives in less optimistic terms, referring in newspaper headlines to Iraq's fierce counterattacks outside Fao. While insisting that these have been beaten off, there is much talk in the Tehran press of the Iranians "consolidating" their positions on the tongue of Iraqi territory they hold at the end of the Shatt al-Arab, which suggests there are no immediate plans for further advances.

Needless to say, the Iranian Government has spared no effort after its latest offensives in contacting the vulnerable Arab Gulf states, ominously lecturing them on the benefits of neutrality while denying any territorial ambitions.

Much publicity has been given here, for example, to a visit to Bahrain by Mr Husain Lavasanni, the Iranian Foreign Ministry's director general for political affairs. Heis quoted as telling Sheikh Issa bin Salman al-Khalifa, the Bahraini ruler, that if Iraq threatened Kuwait's territorial integrity, it would "curtail the hands of the aggressors".

This was clearly Iran's way of warning Kuwait not to allow Iraqi forces to launch another counterattack from Kuwaiti territory on Babiyan island, which lies just off the Fao peninsula.

● NICOSIA: The official Iraqi news agency quoted a military spokesman as denying the Iranian claim, saying that Iraqi air attacks were confined to military targets, (AP reports).

● VIENNA: An Iranian soldier has died here of poison gas injuries suffered in the war with Iraq, and another died while being flown to Vienna for treatment, according to doctors and the Iranian Embassy here (AP reports).

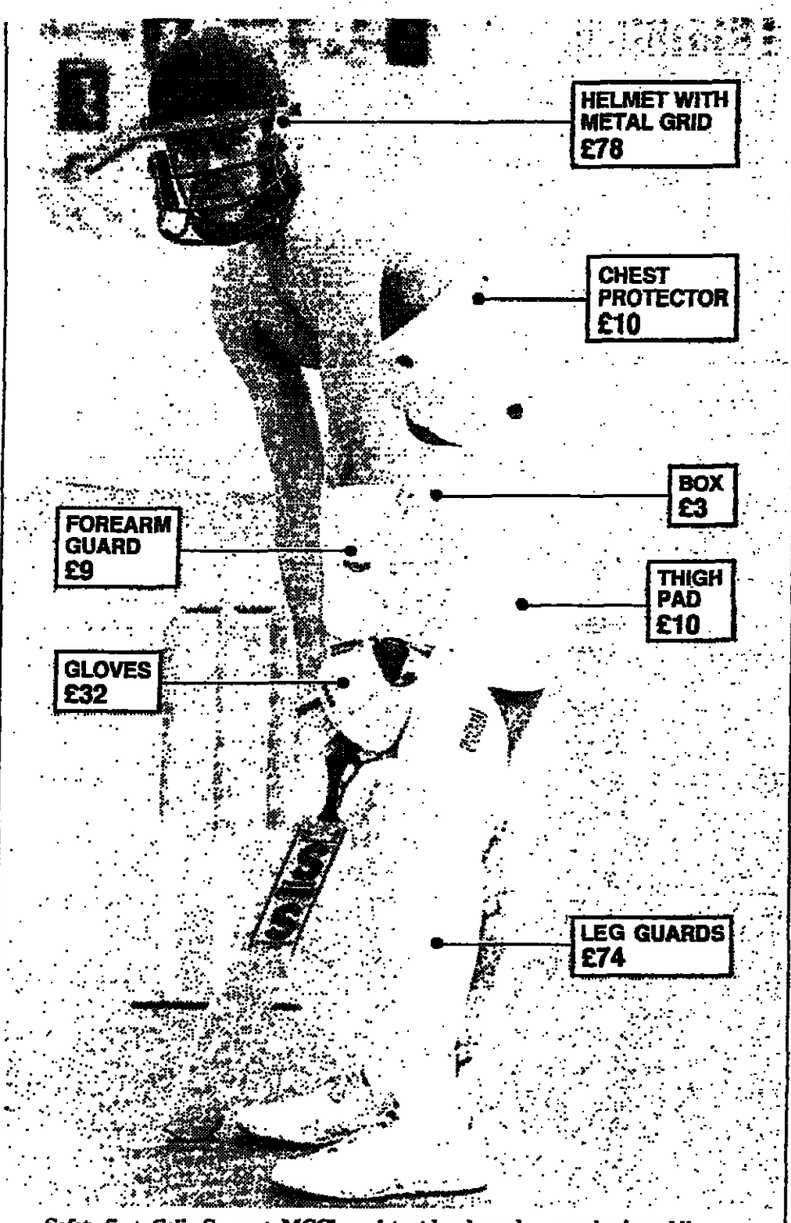
BMA backs bid to ban tobacco-sports links

More than £70 million a year goes through Britain's shops in illegal sales of cigarettes to children, the British Medical Association claimed on the eve of today's attempt in the Commons to ban tobacco sponsorship of sport (Stephen Goodwin writes).

The BMA regards young people as the most vulnerable target of the annual £10 million worth of tobacco advertising linked to sporting heros.

While only 36 per cent of adult men and 32 per cent of women smoke, 41 per cent of Britain's secondary school children are smokers, Dr John Dawson, head of the BMA's professional, scientific and international affairs division, told a press conference in the Commons.

The BMA is sponsoring the Bill by Mr Roger Sims, Conservative MP for Chislehurst, which would phase out sponsorship of sporting events by tobacco companies over three years.



Safety first: Colin Sargent, MCC's assistant head coach, wears basic padding

Counting the cost of safer cricket

By Richard Streeton

For all the protective gear cricketers wear these days, Mike Gatting's horrendous accident in Jamaica this week was a reminder of the lethal punishment a cricket ball can inflict. Gatting, who is among those who dislike wearing a visor with their helmets, had his nose crushed when he missed an intended hook.

Cricketers first took to wearing modern-type pads, gloves and boxes in 1835 after roundarm bowling was legalized, but other forms of protection had been in use earlier.

Two types of helmet, with either a Perspex visor or a metal grid, are the most recent innovation. It was not until 1977-78, when Kerry Packer's World Series Cricket encouraged regular use of the bouncer, that helmets became commonplace.

The chest protector, forearm guard and thigh pad are also fairly recent innovations. In bygone days, though, when cricketers were more reticent about protective clothing, people often swathed towels around themselve beneath their flannels to serve as armour against the ball.

Police arrest Mafia boss

Palermo (AP) — Signor Michele Greco, widely believed to be the top Sicilian Mafia leader, was arrested yesterday at a farmhouse about 24 miles from here.

Signor Tommaso Buscetta, a known gangster turned police informer, told authorities that Signor Greco, aged 62 and known as "Il Papa" (the Pope), controlled the entire criminal syndicate in Sicily and was the undisputed boss of Palermo.

A police official at yesterday's arrest described it as the "most important break in years" in the state's fight against organized crime in Italy.

The official, who spoke on condition he was not identified, said Signor Greco served as chairman of the top Mafia directorate which operated a multi-billion dollar drug-smuggling operation from Italy to the US.

Police said his arrest came as part of a Sicily-wide crackdown involving hundreds of policemen in which 24 other Mafia suspects, sympathizers and common criminals were caught.

Signor Greco and his brother Salvatore, nicknamed "the senator", aged 58 and also a convicted gangster at large,have been sought since 1982. They were tried *in absentia* and sentenced to life imprisonment in July 1984 for planning the 1983 car-bomb killing of an anti-Mafia judge, Signor Rocco Chinnici.

The Greco brothers are among 474 defendants in the massive anti-Mafia trial which began here on February 10.

Signor Greco is charged with ordering a string of killings including the 1982 assassination of General Carlo Alberto Dalla Chiesa, Italy's top anti-Mafia fighter, and his wife. He is also charged with drug trafficking and criminal association.

The Greco brothers are the sons of Signor Giuseppe Greco, who dominated the Sicilian underworld throughout the 1950s.

Letter from Londonderry

Soccer helps heal the divided city

Londonderry or Derry, whichever name used indicates the side of the sectarian divide a person is on, is where it all began sixteen long years ago.

Grim postwar housing estates and districts of the "maiden city" with ugly names like Creggan, Bogside, Shantallow and Gobnascale became internationally famous. The high unemployment, poor facilities and deprivation providing a fertile breeding ground for the paramilitaries and their "armed struggle" against the despised Brits.

Today, from those same estates where the graffiti merchants remain busy with their orange, white and green messages defiantly proclaiming victory and support for the struggle, thousands of people pour each weekend to support the most remarkable phenomenon in this city for years — the rebirth of Derry City Football Club.

As with much else in the province, the club suffered as community tension rose in those grim days of the early troubles. In a city whose River Foyle provides a natural divide between nationalists and Unionists, the Brandywell football ground in the heart of republican Bogside was hardly an ideal site and after a bus from a "loyalist" club was burned in the early years of the troubles, opposing teams stopped visiting the club.

In 1972, Derry withdrew from the Northern Ireland based Irish League, ending a tradition of football at the Brandywell ground since 1928. Denied re-entry to the League, the club turned towards the south and obtained permission to join the Irish Republic's League of Ireland.

The return of soccer to Brandywell, overlooked by the windswept city's cemetery, has had an enormous impact on the people, the city and the League.

The people have turned out in their thousands to cheer a team consisting of full and part-timers. By Irish standards the 8,000 to 10,000 who watch each Sunday's home game and the 3,000 travelling to away matches is nothing short of astonishing. In fact, Derry City often has more supporters at its game than the total attendance for all matches played in the republic's 12-team Premier Division.

Supporters' clubs based mainly in bars provide a nucleus of support plus the discipline to ensure good crowd behaviour. Given the sensitivities of the province, and the city in particular, there are no national anthems or flags.

The delicate matter of policing has also been quietly resolved through a management committee consisting of Roman Catholics and Protestants.

While the RUC keeps a discreet presence in the vicinity of the ground, thirty stewards organize the crowd inside with each supporters' club taking responsibility for its own members. A fan who caused trouble at an away match found thatother supporters were so angry at his behaviour that his children were called names and his wife was ostracised at the shops.

Derry's results are the main topic of conversation in the city. Newspapers have increased circulation and the club's two players from Brazil and South Africa are treated as celebrities.

Perhaps most heartening of all is that southern teams, previously scared of staying overnight, now book into local hotels. And, although the city's Protestant bishop brought the wrath of hard-line loyalists on his head for attending a match on the Sabbath, the club detects a slow but steady drift back to the ground by Protestants.

In their first season Derry missed promotion but their Cup hopes remain alive and next Sunday's Cup tie, against Finn Harps from Co Donegal, is an all-ticket match.

Derry's football club has provided a community with something to shout about after years of having a tough time.

"After 11 years people want something lighter. Times have changed. There's less pessimism about. We can make it," Mr Hegarty, the club's secretary, said.

Richard Ford

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

Princess Anne visits Glenhow School, Saltburn by Sea, Cleveland, 11.30; then visits Milestone Intermediate Treatment Project, Sunderland, 2.30; and later the Save the Children Fund shop; Gateshead, Tyne and Wear, 4.30.

Music

Music of the Netherlands, Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore St, W1, 7.30.

Piano recital by Bernard Roberts, Leicester University, 8.

Concert by Northern Sinfonia of England, City Hall, Queen Victoria Sq, Hull, 7.30.

Concert by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra with Ju Hee Suh (piano), Guildhall, Portsmouth, 7.30.

Concert by the London Philharmonic Orchestra, 7.45; trombone and guitar recital by Dave Jago & Bruce Knapp, 8 - 10.20; the Riverside Cafe, The Royal Festival Hall, South Bank.

Concert by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Barbican Hall, 7.45.

Concert by Hallé Orchestra, Sheffield City Hall, 7.30.

Concert by The London Sinfonietta, St. George's Hall, Bradford, 7.30.

Organ recital by Robert Jones, St. Paul's Cathedral, 12.30.

Organ recital by David Cook, St. Mary Abchurch, Abchurch Lane, EC4, 1.

Recital by students of the French Song Class, Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Barbican, EC2, 1.05.

Recital by Stephen Hughes (baritone), St. Sepulchre's Church, EC1, 1.10.

Concert by the Bournemouth Sinfonietta, Great Hall, Exeter University, 7.30.

Recital by Cavatina, 1.10; Recital by Ivor Bolton (harpsichord), 7.30; St James's, Piccadilly.

Recital by the McFarlane String Quartet, Nottingham Playhouse, 1.05.

Talks, lectures, films

Paul the church builder, by The Revd Malcolm Forrest, Liverpool Parish Church, Pier Head, 1.05.

Rembrandt: Self-portrait aged 63, by Colin Wiggins, The National Gallery, Travalgar Sq, WC2, 1.

Masterpieces of Persian, Turkish and Mughal painting, 12; Manuscript treasures from India, both by Barbara Brend, 2; British Museum Gt Russel St, WC1.

Oriental Sculpture, by John Reeve, British Museum, Gt Russel St, WC1, 11.30.

The Unity of Medieval Art by Sir Ernst Gombrich, Gustave Tuck Lecture Theatre, University College, Gower St, WC1, 6.30.

An Introduction to Amateur Radio by the Radio Society of Gt Britain, Science Museum, South Kensington, SW7, 2.30.

General

Provincial Booksellers Fairs Association, today 2 to 8, tomorrow 10 to 5, Victoria Rooms, Queen's Rd, Bristol.

Children's Book Festival (for 4 to 12 year- olds), Accrington Town Hall, Lancs, 2 to 5.

June Redfern, artist in Residence, opens her studio to visitors, The National Gallery, Trafalgar Sq, WC2, 2 to4.30.

Top Films

The top box-office films in London:

1 (-) Spies Like Us
2 (-) Rocky 4
3 (-2) A Chorus Line
4 (-3) Back to the Future
5 (-4) Kiss of the Spider Woman
6 (-5) Teen Wolf
7 (-7) Defence of the Realm
8 (-9) My Beautiful Launderette
9 (10) Deathin a French Garden
10 (6) Year of the Dragon

The top films in the provinces:

1 Rocky 4
2 Teen Wolf
3 Prizzi's Honour
4 Back to the Future
5 A Chorus Line

Supplied by *Screen International*

Top video rentals

1 (1) Rambo: First Blood
2 (2) Ghostbusters
3 (3) Gremlins
4 (4) Beverly Hills Cop
5 (5) Neverending Story
6 (6) The Terminator
7 (11) The Mean Season
8 (8) Into the Night
9 (10) Rocky 3
10 (31) Mask

Supplied by *Video Business*

Portfolio

Portfolio - how to play
Monday-Saturday record your daily Portfolio total.
Add these together to determine your weekly Portfolio total.
If your total matches the published weekly dividend figure you have won outright or a share of the prize money stated for that week, and must claim your prize as instructed below.

How to claim

Telephone The Times Portfolio claims line 0254-53171 between 10.00 am and 3.30 pm. on the day your overall total matches The Times Portfolio Dividend. No claims can be accepted outside these hours.

You must have your card with you when you telephone.

If you are unable to telephone someone else can claim on your behalf but they must have your card and call The Times Portfolio claims line between the stipulated times.

No responsibility can be accepted for failure to contact the claims office for any reason within the stated hours.

The above instructions are applicable to both daily and weekly dividend claims.

Some Times Portfolio cards include minor misprints in the instructions on the reverse side. These cards are not invalidated.

The wording of Rules 2 and 3 has been expanded from earlier versions for clarification purposes. The Game itself is not affected and will continue to be played in exactly the same way as before.

Food prices

The continuing cold weather is affecting supplies of many home- grown vegetables, particularly leeks, and this, of course, has resulted in higher prices. Brussels sprouts at 30-49p per pound, carrots 15-24p, leeks 50-80p, parsnips 25-35p, and Spring greens at 25-40p, are all dearer this week. Swedes at 10-20p per pound, turnips 25-35p,and Savoy cabbage at 18-28p are slightly cheaper.Potatoes, 8-12p per pound and onions 12-20p, are from store, and mushrooms, at 30-55p a half pound, which are grown under controlled conditions, have not been affected.

Cox's apples, at 25-58p per pound and French Golden Delicious at 20-30 per pound are dearer this week but conference pears, at 25-40 per pound, are a little cheaper. Cape red plums, 50-68 per pound, are slightly dearer but the Golden Kelsey and songold are unchanged. Citrus fruit is abundant and prices are stable.

Chicken is becoming the nation's most popular meat, according to the British Chicken Information Service. It seems we are doing ourselves a favour as it is low in fat and high in unsaturated fatty acids, which reduces chlorestoral. Special meat offers at shops and supermarkets are: Tesco Grade A frozen stuffed chicken, 55p per pound, topside and silverside of beef 1.86 per pound; Marks & Spencer butter- based turkey breast 2.44 per pound, and turkey breast with chestnut stuffing 1.94. Dewhurst and Baxters rump steak is 2.79 per pound, braising steak from 1.49 per pound and Sainsbury fresh minced beef 88p per pound.

Anniversaries

Births: John Henry Newman, cardinal, London, 1801; Léo Delibes, composer, St Germain du Val, 1836; August von Wasserman, bacteriologist, Bamberg, Germany, 1866; George Lansbury, leader of the Labour Party 1931-35, near Lowestoft, 1859.

Deaths: Baruch Spinoza, philosopher, The Hague, 1677; Jethro Tull, agricultural writer, near Hungerford, Berkshire,1741; Nikolay Gogol, Moscow, 1852.

Roads

London and South-east:Wandsworth is likely to remain extremely congested because of a burst water main on A3 High Street at junction with Garratt Lane :diversions. A13 roadworks; traffic disruption in Barking area. Southbound diversions from Newgate Lane on A32 Gosport road, Hants.

Midlands: M5: Contraflow between junctions 4 and 5 (Bromsgrove/Droitwich).Only one lane open n-bound. Northbound entry at junction 5 is closed. M5: Contraflow between junction 2 (A4123 Dudley and Birmingham W) and junction 3 (A456 Halesowen and Birmingham W). A1: Reconstruction work nr Stilton, Cambridgeshire.

Wales and West: M5: Hard shoulder and lanes 1 and 2 closed on N -bound carriageway closed. A418: Major construction work at South Cerney; delays.A55: Intermittant lane closures on both sides of Bodelwyddan by -pass, on St Asaph to Abergele road at Clwyd.

North: M18: Doncaster to Sheffield road closed. A62: Severe congestion in Oldham road, nr Queens Rd: avoid until mid - March. A19: Fencing work S of Murton flyover and construction of new slip road between A19 and B1432.

Scotland: M8: E-bound carriageway closed W of junction 5 (Shotts/Harthill):contraflow on W-bound. A74: Various lane closures from junction 3 Larkhill interchange to junction 4, Hamilton interchange. A82: Rock-scaling off-peak hours; delays.

Information supplied by AA

Parliament today

Commons-(9.30):Civil Protection in peacetime Bill (second reading).Tobacco products (sports sponsorship) Bill, and other private members' Bills.

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.17	2.03
Austria Sch	24.35	23.15
Belgium Fr	72.20	68.40
Canada $	2.095	2.005
Denmark Kr	12.52	12.22
Finland Mkk	7.89	7.49
France Fr	10.69	10.14
Germany Dm	3.48	3.30
Greece Dr	253	228
Hong Kong $	11.60	11.10
Ireland Pt	1.16	1.10
Italy Lira	2,370	2240
Japan Yen	273	259
Netherlands Gld	3.92	3.73
Norway Kr	10.88	10.33
Portugal Esc	225	214
South Africa Rd	3.15	2.85
Spain Pta	214.50	202.50
Sweden Kr	11.05	10.50
Switzerland Fr	2.89	2.74
USA $	1.52	1.45
Yugoslavia Dnr	550	490

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index: 378.9

London: The *FT* Index closed down 1.9 at 1233.2.

Snow Reports

	Depth (cm) L	U	Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C
AUSTRIA							
St Anton	95	300	fair	powder	good	fine	-5
New snow on hard base							
FRANCE							
Isola 2000	200	250	good	powder	good	fine	-5
Excellent skiing on all pistes							
La Plagne	165		300	good	powder	sun	-10
Excellent skiing							
Megeve	80	170	good	powder	good	fine	-2
New snow, perfect cinditions							
Morzine	100	200	good	varied	good	fine	-1
Good skiing on high slopes							
ITALY							
Courmayeur	125	280	good	varied	good	sun	0
Excellent snow conditions							
SWITZERLAND							
Andermatt	65	170	good	varied	good	fine	-4
New snow on hard base							
Davos	100	160	good	powder	good	fine	-3
Good skiing on all slopes							
Murren	70	170	good	powder	good	fine	-8
Superb skiing on fresh snow							
Villars	130	250	good	powder	good	fine	-8
New snow on hard base							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper, and art to artificial.

Weather forecast

A ridge of high pressure across the S will weaken as a frontal trough moves southwards across N areas.

6am to midnight

London,SE,Cen N,SW England,E Anglia,Midlands,Channel Islands,S Wales: Mainly dry with sunny periods after early fog patches; isolated snow showers; wind variable light; max temp: 3C (37F).

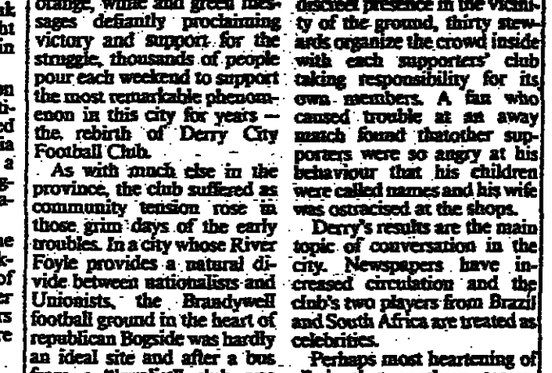
E Mids,N Wales,NW,Cen N,NE England,Lake District,Isle of Man: Fog in places thinning slowly, becoming cloudy with some snow; wind variable becoming W light; max temp:3C (37F)

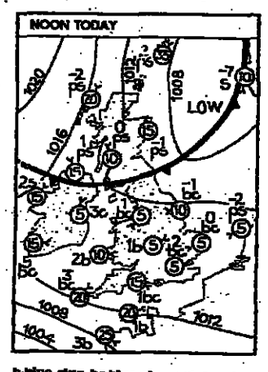
Borders,Edinburgh,Dundee,Sw Scotland,Glasgow: Cloudy with occasional snow, becoming clearer and drier, wind W veering NW; max temp:3C (37F).

Aberdeen,Cen Highlands,Moray Firth,NE,NW Scotland,Argyll,Orkney,Shetland: Showers, heavy and prolonged at times, with some drifting; wind NW moderate increasing fresh or strong; max temp: 3C (37F).

N Ireland: Becoming cloudy with occasional snow, brighter with a few snow showers later; wind variable light becoming moderate; max temp:4C (39F).

Outlook for Saturday and Sunday: Staying very cold with snow showers, some prolonged especially in N and E. ends.





b-blue sky; bc-blue sky and cloud; c-cloudy; o-overcast; f-fog; d-drizzle; h-hail; rain-mist; r-rain; s-snow; th-thunderstorm; s-showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled. Temperature centigrade.

High Tides

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	11.42	5.5	-	-
Aberdeen	11.23	3.5	11.58	3.8
Avonmouth	4.49	10.0	5.25	10.5
Belfast	9.01	3.0	9.29	2.9
Cardiff	4.34	9.4	5.10	9.8
Devonport	3.23	4.5	3.54	4.4
Dover	9.08	5.2	9.34	5.6
Falmouth	2.53	4.3	3.24	4.2
Glasgow	10.19	4.2	11.25	4.1
Harwich	9.36	3.4	10.03	3.4
Holyhead	8.20	4.6	8.56	4.6
Hull	4.10	5.8	4.39	5.9
Ilfracombe	3.46	7.1	4.17	7.3
Leith	12.14	4.4	12.47	4.5
Liverpool	9.12	7.6	9.39	7.8
Lowestoft	7.47	2.0	7.51	2.1
Margate	9.55	3.8	10.13	4.0
Milford Haven	4.09	5.4	4.37	5.6
Newquay	3.04	5.5	3.30	5.7
Oban	4.08	3.2	4.37	3.3
Penzance	2.28	4.5	2.57	4.4
Portland	4.04	1.5	4.58	1.4
Portsmouth	8.20	3.6	9.58	3.9
Sheerness	9.05	5.9	9.41	5.3
Southampton	8.48	3.8	9.51	3.9
Swansea	4.02	7.4	4.34	7.6
Tees	1.30	4.3	1.52	4.5
Wilson-on-Nze	9.41	5.3	10.0	3.4

Tide measured in metres: 1m=3.280ft.

Around Britain

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F		Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
EAST COAST										
Scarboro	0.5	0.08	1	34	snow	Ilfracombe	x	-	2	36	sunny
Bridlington	2.6	0.07	3	37	snow	Torquay	7.8	-	3	37	sunny
Cromer	-	-	2	36	cloudy	Colwyn Bay	-	0.01	2	36	snow
Lowestoft	2.2	0.03	3	37	snow	Morecambe	x	x	x	x	x
Clacton	4.1	0.01	2	36	sunny	Douglas	3.9	0.01	3	37	hail
Margate	x	0.01	x	x	snow	ENGLAND AND WALES					
SOUTH COAST						London	2.8	-	3	37	snow
Folkestone	0.4	0.08	1	34	snow	B'hms Airpt	4.1	-	2	36	snow
Hastings	2.8	0.02	3	37	snow	Bristol (Cld)	0.4	-	2	36	snow
Eastbourne	2.5	0.01	3	37	snow	Cardiff (Cld)	2.5	-	3	37	snow
Brighton	2.1	-	3	37	snow	Anglesey	4.3	-	5	41	snow
Worthing	2.5	-	3	37	snow	B'pool Airpt	4.4	0.01	4	39	snow
Littlehmptn	3.7	-	4	39	bright	Manchester	3.7	-	3	37	snow
Bognor R	3.9	-	3	37	bright	Nottingham	3.9	-	3	37	snow
Southsea	2.4	-	4	39	cloudy	N'cstle-n-Tyne	2.7	.15	2	36	snow
Sandown	2.5	-	3	37	bright	Carlisle	1.9	-	3	37	snow
Shanklin	2.6	-	3	37	sunny	SCOTLAND					
Bournemth	1.6	-	3	37	bright	Edinburgh	-	.03	1	34	snow
Poole	0.7	-	3	37	cloudy	Prestwick	0.1	-	4	39	bright
Swanage	1.9	-	3	37	snow	Glasgow	-	-	4	39	cloudy
Weymouth	1.7	-	3	37	cloudy	Tiree	2.4	-	5	41	hail
Exmouth	0.9	-	3	37	cloudy	Stornoway	5.1	0.02	6	43	showers
Teignmouth	-	-	3	37	cloudy	Lerwick	0.7	0.05	3	37	hail
Torquay	0.5	-	3	37	bright	Wick	2.1	0.02	4	39	snow
Falmouth	x	-	x	x	x	Kinloss	0.1	0.02	4	39	snow
Penzance	0.7	-	3	37	cloudy	Aberdeen	-	0.27	0	32	snow
Jersey	-	0.07	1	34	snow	St Andrews	-	0.02	2	36	snow
Guernsey	-	0.02	3	37	hail	Edinburgh	-	-	2	36	snow
WEST COAST											
Scilly Isles	1.9	-	4	39	sunny	NORTHERN IRELAND					
Newquay	-	-	2	36	cloudy	Belfast	0.7	-	5	41	sunny

* denotes Wednesday's figures are the latest available

Tower Bridge

Tower Bridge will be lifted at 9.45am today and lowered at 6.30pm.

Sun Rises: 7.03 am Sun Sets: 5.26 pm
Moon sets 6.09 am Moon rises 1.18 pm
Full moon February 24

Lighting-up time

London 5.53 pm to 6.31 am
Bristol 6.06 pm to 6.41 am
Edinburgh 5.59 pm to 6.52 am
Manchester 6.01 pm to 6.43 am
Penzance 6.20 pm to 6.50 am

Lines of fame

Young writers have until March 29 to compose an imaginary letter to someone famous, or who they think will become famous, in the Post Office's 1986 competition with £300 prizes. Details from main post offices.

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	c	2	36	Guernsey	sn	1	34
B'mghm	f	-3	27	Inverness	f	3	37
Blackpool	s	1	34	Jersey	c	0	32
Bristol	c	1	34	London	c	0	32
Cardiff	sn	0	32	M'chester	c	0	32
Edinburgh	sn	0	32	Newcastle	f	-2	28
Glasgow	c	1	34	R'aldsway	f	1	36

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Abroad

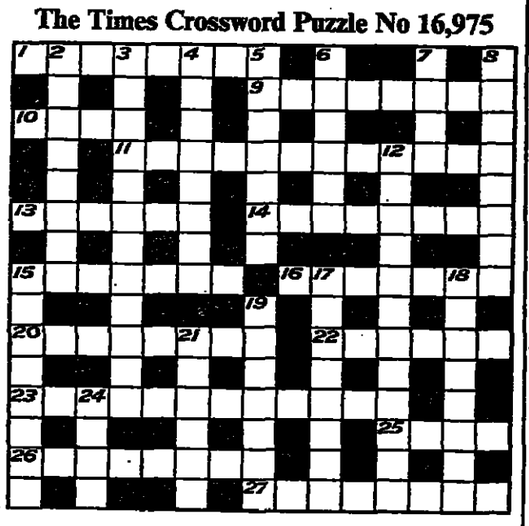
MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow; t, thunder.

		C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	f	9	48	Cologne	c	4	39
Alcudia	s	16	61	C'phagn	sn	-5	23
Alex'dria	s	26	79	Corfu	s	14	57
Algiers	c	15	59	Dublin	c	3	37
Amst'dam	f	-3	27	Dubrovnk	c	11	52
Athens	s	18	64	Faro	s	19	66
Bahrain	s	19	66	Florence	r	11	52
Barbados	f	29	84	Frankfurt	sn	-5	23
Barcelna	s	11	52	Funchal	s	19	66
Beirut	s	-	-	Geneva	f	-1	30
Belgrade	r	2	36	Gibraltar	s	17	63
Berlin	c	-5	16	Helsinki	c	-11	12
Bermuda	s	22	72	Hong K	c	15	59
Biarritz	c	4	39	Innsbruck	f	-3	27
Boul'ne	s	-1	30	Istanbul	c	7	45
Borde'x	s	1	34	Jeddah	s	35	95
Brussels	s	-1	30	Jo'burg	f	22	72
Budapst	c	1	34	Karachi	f	22	72
B Aires	s	30	86	L Palmas	f	21	70
Cairo	s	28	79	Lisbon	f	14	57
Cape Tn	c	22	72	Locarno	s	9	48
Chiasso	-	-	-	Luxembg	f	-7	19
Chicago	c	3	37	L Angels	c	17	63
Ch'church	s	22	72	Madrid	f	8	46
Majorca	s	13	55				
Malaga	s	18	64	Rome	f	12	54
Malta	s	15	59	Salzburg	c	-4	25
Melb'rne	c	21	70	S Paulo	c	28	82
Mexico				S Franco	c	17	63
Milan	s	19	66	Santiago	s	31	88
Miami	f	23	73	Seoul	f	2	36
Milan	f	4	39	Singapor	f	32	90
Montreal	c	-3	27	Stockhm	f	-7	19
Moscow	s	-14	7	Strasb'rg	f	-3	27
Munich	s	-3	27	Sydney	s	30	86
Nairobi	f	28	84	Tangier	s	-	-
Naples	c	14	57	Tel Aviv	s	23	73
New Delhi	s	19	66	Tenerife	c	20	68
N York	r	2	36	Tokyo	f	7	45
Nice	s	13	55	Toronto	c	0	32
Oslo	s	-13	9	Tunis	c	16	61
Paris	sn	-3	27	Valencia	s	14	57
Perth	s	37	99	Vanc'ver	f	6	43
Prague	f	-7	19	Venice	c	-2	28
Reykjvik	s	-1	30	Vienna	c	1	34
Rhodes	c	16	61	Warsaw	c	-2	28
Riyadh	s	20	68	Wel'gton	r	5	41
Rio de J	f	30	86	Zurich	c	-2	28

* denotes Wednesday's figures are latest available

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The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,975



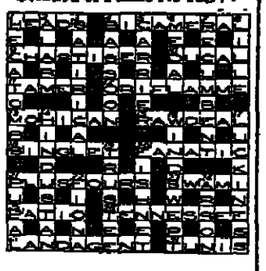
ACROSS

1 Sweets from doting relatives not socially acceptable (8).
9 Compliments only in essays (8).
10 Inclination to be in the pub, I assume (4).
11 Full cost of ticket for a passage (12).
13 Peg — one on the wheel (6).
14 Twelve immense works are ascribed to him (8).
15 About to be given beans? Push off (7).
16 Flier in crash by a track (7).
20 Table perhaps not wholly satisfying - not much there (8).
22 Belloc associated it with women and champagne (6).
23 Did Isis feast badly? Not at all pleased (12).
25 One trick with an image (4).
26 The world of the weekly (8).
27 Bringing up oysters for sprinkling with flour (8).

DOWN

2 Neglectful love-letter (8).
3 Dealers in cars? (12).
4 Rail in New Zealand needs iron — tons remoulded (8).
5 Drinks up with a man in a Greek song (7).
6 What one may put before beer — spirit (6).
7 Stone round a portico (4).
8 By himself, in sad disorder — run down (8).
12 Diagnosing a critic's occupation, to put it another way (5,7).
15 Rum is due to be distilled from what's left after evaporation (8).
17 Free to make one blunder (8).
18 Dress trouble about a dance (8).
19 Damned fortunate! (7).
21 It's present on arrival (6).
24 Black marketeer upsets the top brass (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,974



The Concise Crossword is on page 10